著者近影（アシスタントと共に）

少年の名は覚悟！ 穏やかな瞳に秘めた運命・必勝！
鎧の名は零！ 物言わぬ鋼に込めた悲願・七生！
牙を持たぬ人の血が流される時、少年と鎧は一つに重なる！
その時は只今！ 只今がその時なり！
ふさわしい場所に堕ちよ現人鬼！
死線の彼方に見えるのは因果！

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

山口貴由
Takayuki Yamaguchi

覚悟のススメ 1

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

覚悟のススメ 1

山口貴由

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■乾はるか
乱丸XXX ①～④巻
■古谷野孝雄
GOANdGO ①・②巻
■樋田和彦
京四郎 ①～⑤巻
■山田こうすけ
やさしくシテネ ①巻
オモチャのYoYoYo ①～④巻
■やまさき拓味
優駿の門 ①～⑦巻
■富沢ひとし
肥前屋十兵衛 全③巻
■矢野健太郎
まさみの気持ち 全②巻
■曽田正人
シャカリキ！ 全⑩巻
■原口清志
しゃがら ①～⑤巻
■川野ゆーへー
情熱クラブ ①・②巻
■西条真二
鉄鍋のジャン！ ①～⑦巻
となりの格闘王 全⑩巻
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特攻天女 ①～④巻
■横山光輝
バビル2世 全⑫巻
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エコエコアザラクII ①・②巻

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SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

VOLUME ONE

PUBLISHED IN WEEKLY SHONEN CHAMPION COMICS

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PAGE 5

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BATTLE FIVE,
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PAGE 163

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Apocalypse Zero

VOLUME ONE
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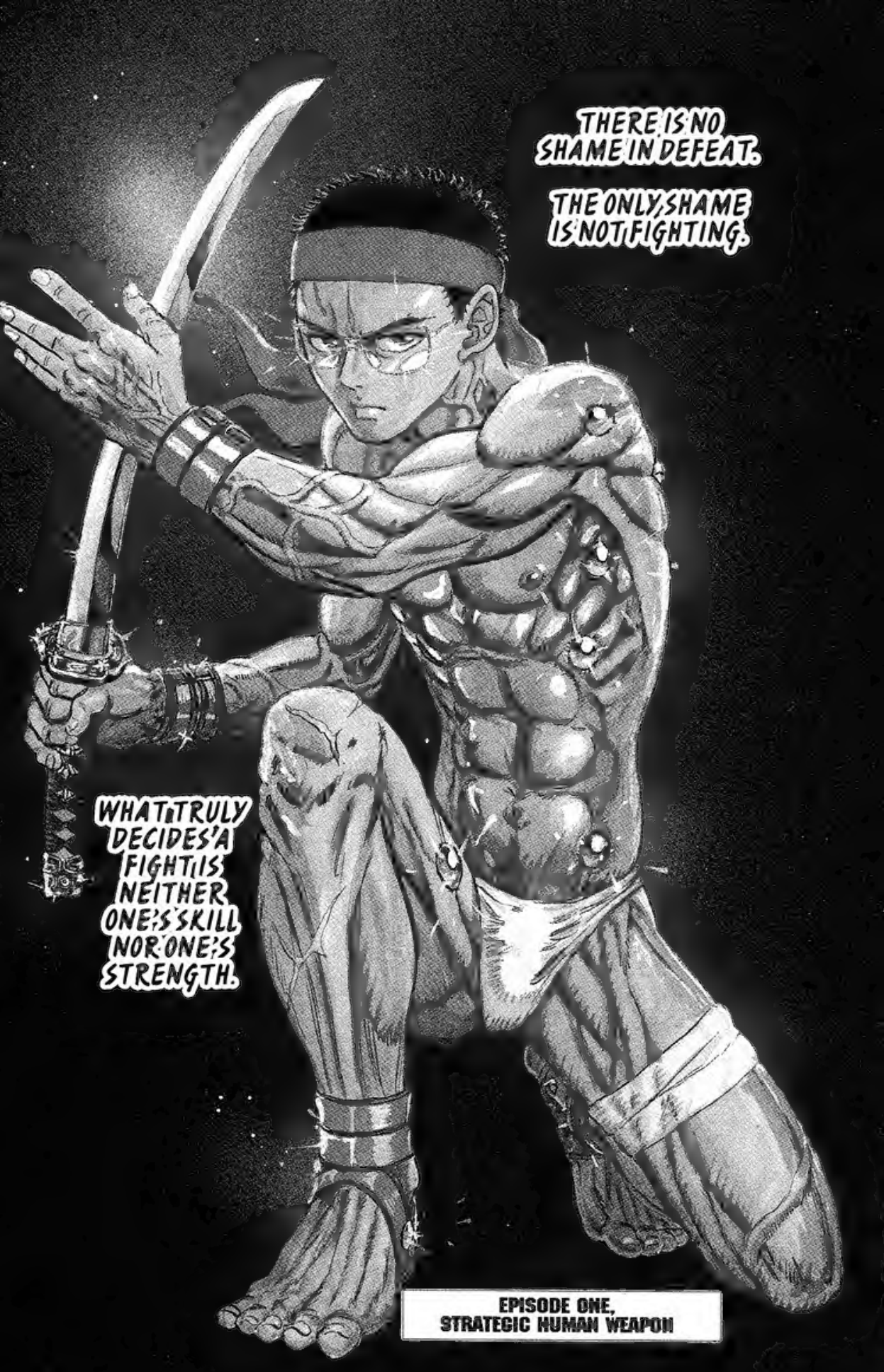
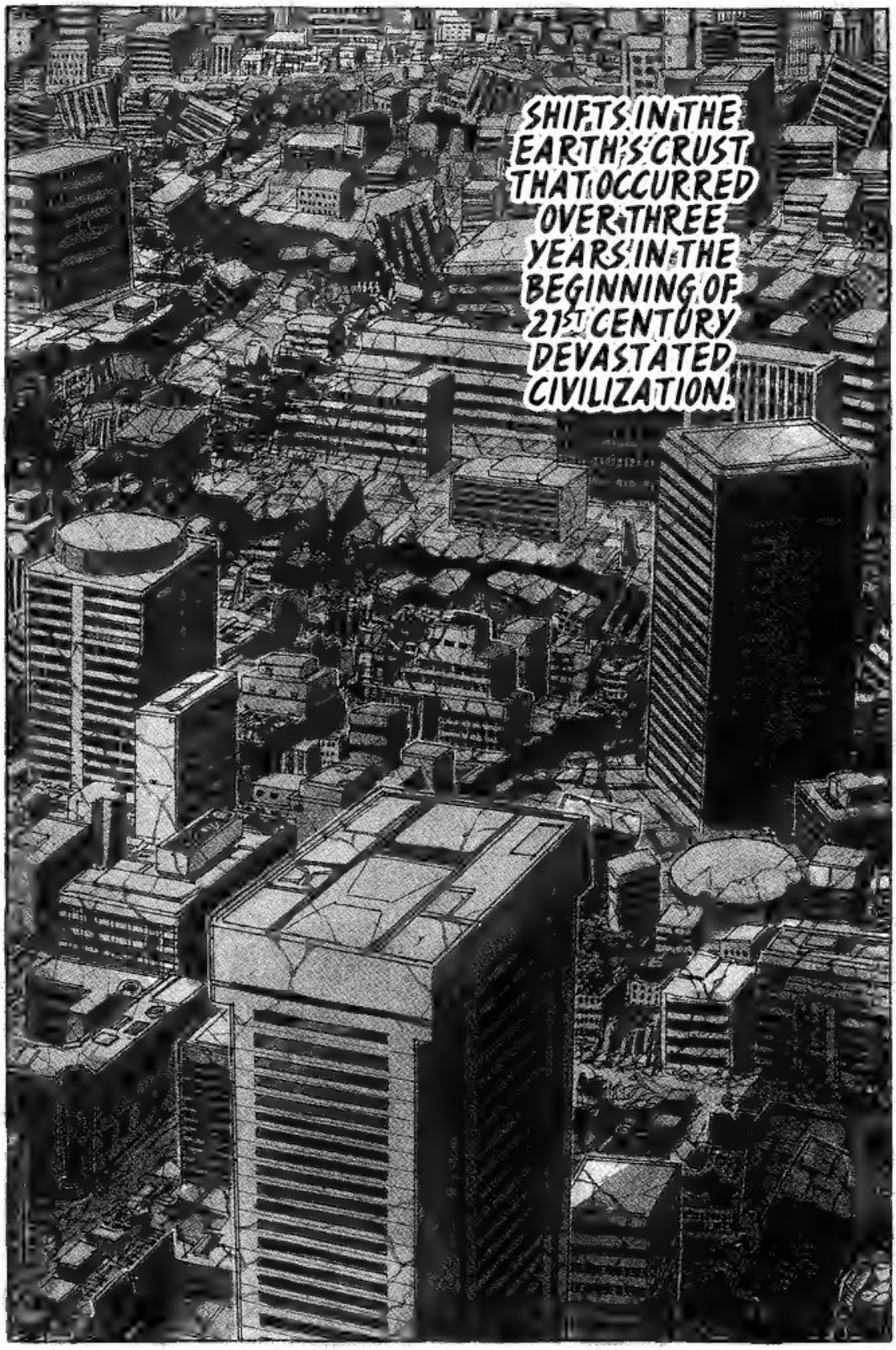
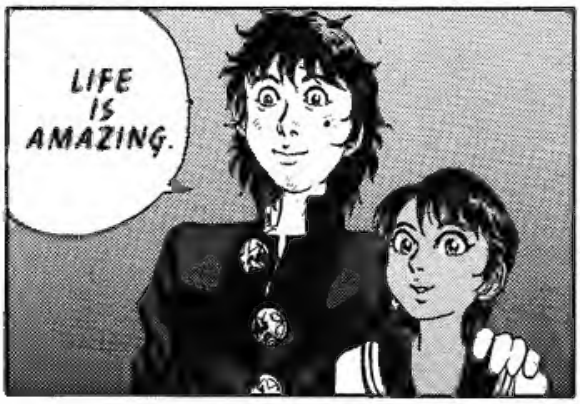
THIS IS A FICTIONAL STORY.

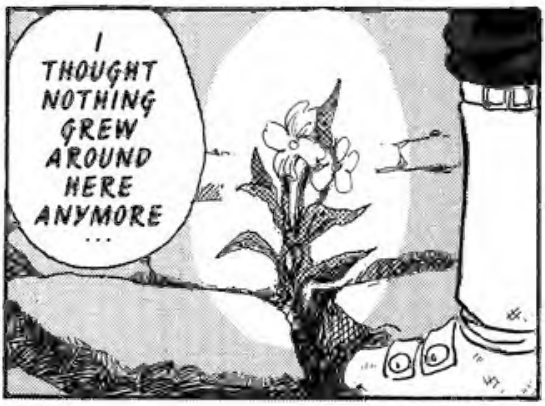

THERE IS NO SHAME IN DEFEAT.
THE ONLY SHAME IS NOT FIGHTING.
WHAT TRULY DECIDES A FIGHT IS NEITHER ONE'S SKILL NOR ONE'S STRENGTH.
EPISODE ONE, STRATEGIC HUMAN WEAPON

覚悟のススメ
第一話 戦略人間兵器
EPISODE ONE,
STRATEGIC HUMAN WEAPON


SHIFTS IN THE EARTH'S CRUST THAT OCCURRED OVER THREE YEARS IN THE BEGINNING OF 21ST CENTURY DEVASTATED CIVILIZATION.

NEO TOKYO
SECTION 04
LOOK! A FLOWER!


LIFE IS AMAZING.


I THOUGHT NOTHING GREW AROUND HERE ANYMORE ...

!

KAZU ...
HIROKO ...

LET'S LEAVE IT BE.
みしっ

AAA-
AAH!
!!

I AM HAMUKO.
PEOPLE CALL ME BEAUTY!
W-W-W-WHAT THE!?
HIROKO IS GOING TO HAVE OUR...
STOP IT!
URGH!
バキ
ベキ
JUST LOOK AT HER FACE!
HIROKO!
WHAT'S SO HOT ABOUT HER?
HUMPH!

SHE'S SO UGLY!
UR-AGGH

JUST LOOK AT WHAT SHE'S LIKE ON THE INSIDE.

AAA-AAAH!

GYAKUJUJI
SCHOOL

I'M AFRAID THAT THEY GOT INVOLVED IN SOME KIND OF CRIME

IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE KAZU SHIMADA AND HIROKO UCHIYAMA WERE LAST SEEN

I'M A TEACHER.
MY JOB'S TO DEAL WITH REALITY, OKAY?
MR. ZENIGATA!
I BET THEY'RE ALREADY DEAD.
YOU SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS THAT WAY
THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF CREEPY HOBOS ROAMING ABOUT IN THIS CITY, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL THEY'RE UP TO.

EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED SINCE THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE
THEY'RE LIKE ZOMBIES.
THOSE BASTARDS DON'T DIE UNTIL THEIR BRAINS GET BLOWN OUT
ドカッ
YES!
!
ISN'T IT DISGUSTING?
LOOK AT THIS GIGANTIC COCKROACH!
MR. ZENIGATA? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

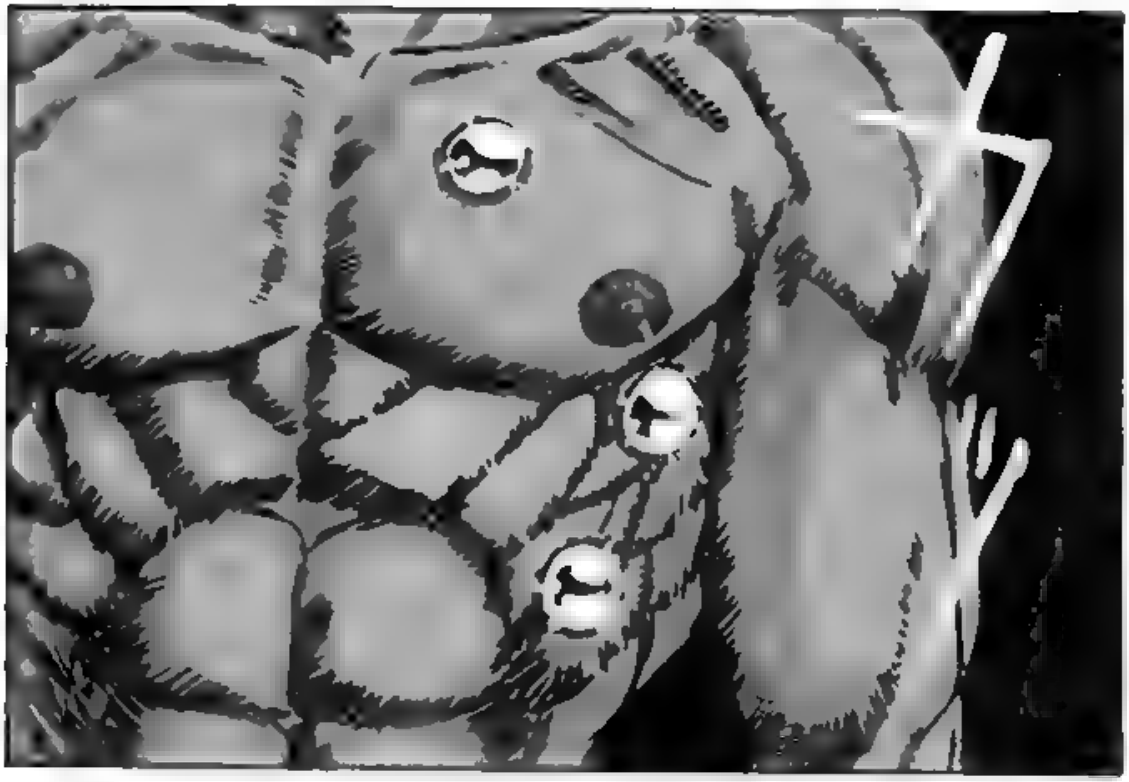
SALUTE THE SCHOOLHOUSE.
THIS IS THE HIGH SCHOOL I'LL BE ATTENDING FROM TODAY ON
STOP RIGHT THERE!
STUDENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS ARE PROHIBITED HERE!

NO. 01-B-5247
SOPHOMORE, CLASS 1
NAME
KAKUGO HAGAKURE M
DATE OF BIRTH: 1999, DECEMBER, 25
THIS PERSON IS A STUDENT AT GYAKUJUJI PRIVATE SCHOOL
I MUST APOLOGIZE
OH, A NEW STUDENT.
WE NEVER KNOW WHEN THOSE MUTANT PERVERTS WILL SHOW UP
IT'S A DANGEROUS WORLD WE LIVE IN.

I AGREE
THE STUDENTS MUST PROTECT THEMSELVES.
WE CAN'T DEPEND ON THE POLICE ANYMORE
INTERVIEW ROOM
YES, SIR.
WE HAVEN'T RECEIVED YOUR RECORDS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION YET SO I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS.

TEXTBOOKS AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, SIR.
WHAT'S IN THE BAG?
I WOULDN'T LOOK INSIDE A MAN'S BRIEF CASE EVEN IF IT WERE REQUIRED.
NAH.
I'M GONNA HAVE TO CHECK IT.
YES, SIR.
YES, SIR..
TAKE EVERYTHING OFF, PLEASE!
I'M JUST KIDDING.
YES, SIR..
COULD YOU TAKE OFF YOUR JACKET?

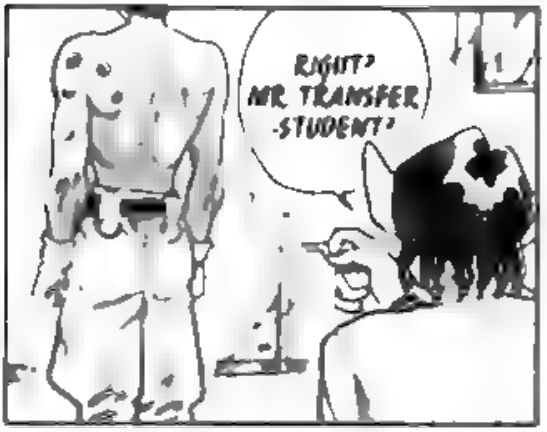
!
OH!?



THESE PUNKS NOWADAYS PUT METAL STUDS INTO THEIR BODIES
IT'S JUST A FASHION STATEMENT PRINCIPAL

W-WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS ON YOUR BODY?

I DO NOT LISTEN TO ROCK AND ROLL


RIGHT? MR. TRANSFER STUDENT?

ATTENTION EVERYONE!
2-1
WHY DON'T YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO EVERYONE, HUH?

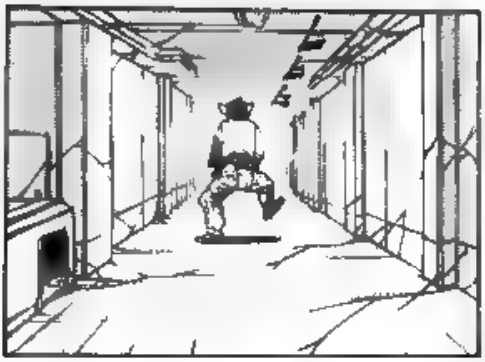
I'M KAEDE HAGAKURE

OKAY HAGAKURE, YOU'D BETTER TAKE ONE WITH THE CARBON

WOW. SUCH A SWEET VOICE

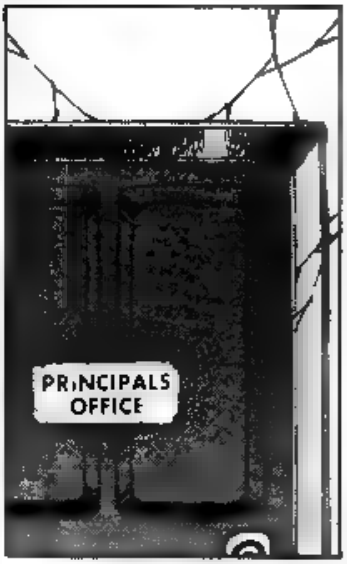
OH MY GOD! HE'S SITTING NEXT TO ME..
どきん!
どきどき
LIKEWISE.
I-I AM HORIE. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
HE SMELLS LIKE INCENSE..
fheh

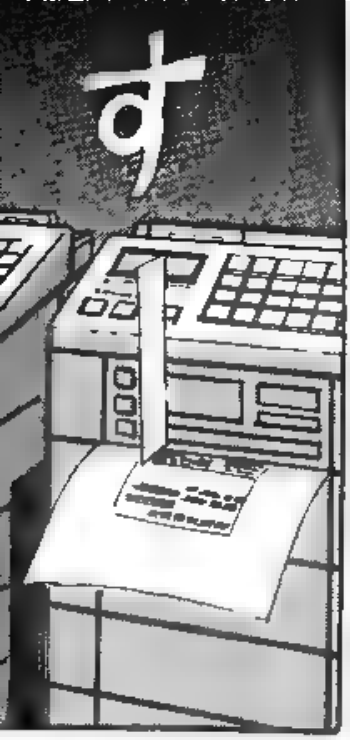
ガッ
YO, TRANSFER STUDENT! YOU WANT ME TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH?
STOP IT, HAOKA!



ANYONE WHO SITS IN THAT SEAT ALWAYS BECOMES HAOKA'S TARGET
THAT POOR TRANSFER STUDENT

SOPHOMORE, CLASS 1, TSUMIKO HORIE


PRINCIPALS OFFICE



BEEP
BEEP
!
RECEIV

IF GOD GRANTS IT, I WANT TO LOOK AFTER YOU AFTER YOU GRADUATE...
YOU'RE THE SHINING LIGHT OF GYAKUJUJI SCHOOL

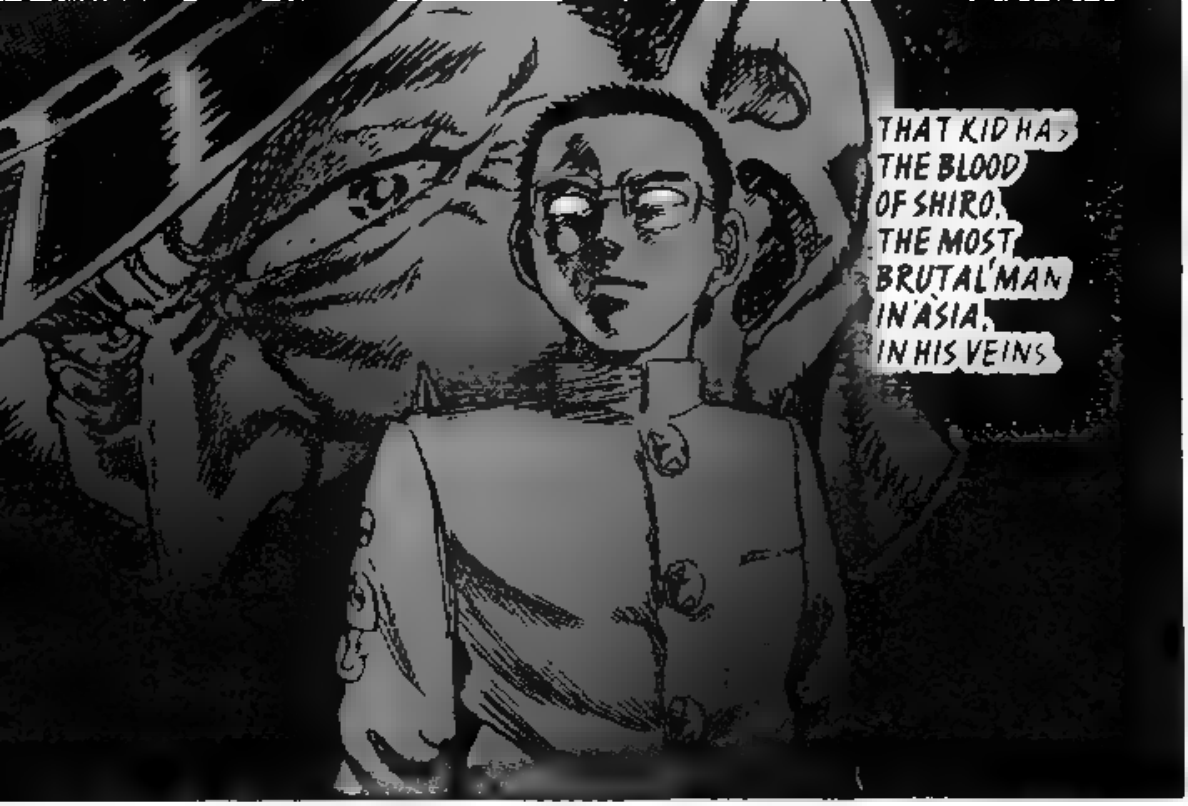
ONE DRINK SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM, RIGHT PRINCIPAL?
I BROUGHT SOME LIQUOR I CONFISCATED FROM A STUDENT
ちゃぷ ちゃぷ
からん

THERE YOU ARE.
ガチャ

WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SERIOUS?

OH?

THIS IS THE INFO ON THE TRANSFER STUDENT.
OH!
?
DO YOU KNOW A MAN NAMED SHIRO HAGAKURE?
MR. ZENIGATA.
HE WAS ALSO A SOLDIER WHO SLAUGHTERED MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND PRISONERS IN HUMAN EXPERIMENTS DURING WWII
SHIRO HAGAKURE WAS A WAR CRIMINAL


THAT KID HAS THE BLOOD OF SHIRO, THE MOST BRUTAL MAN IN ASIA, IN HIS VEINS.

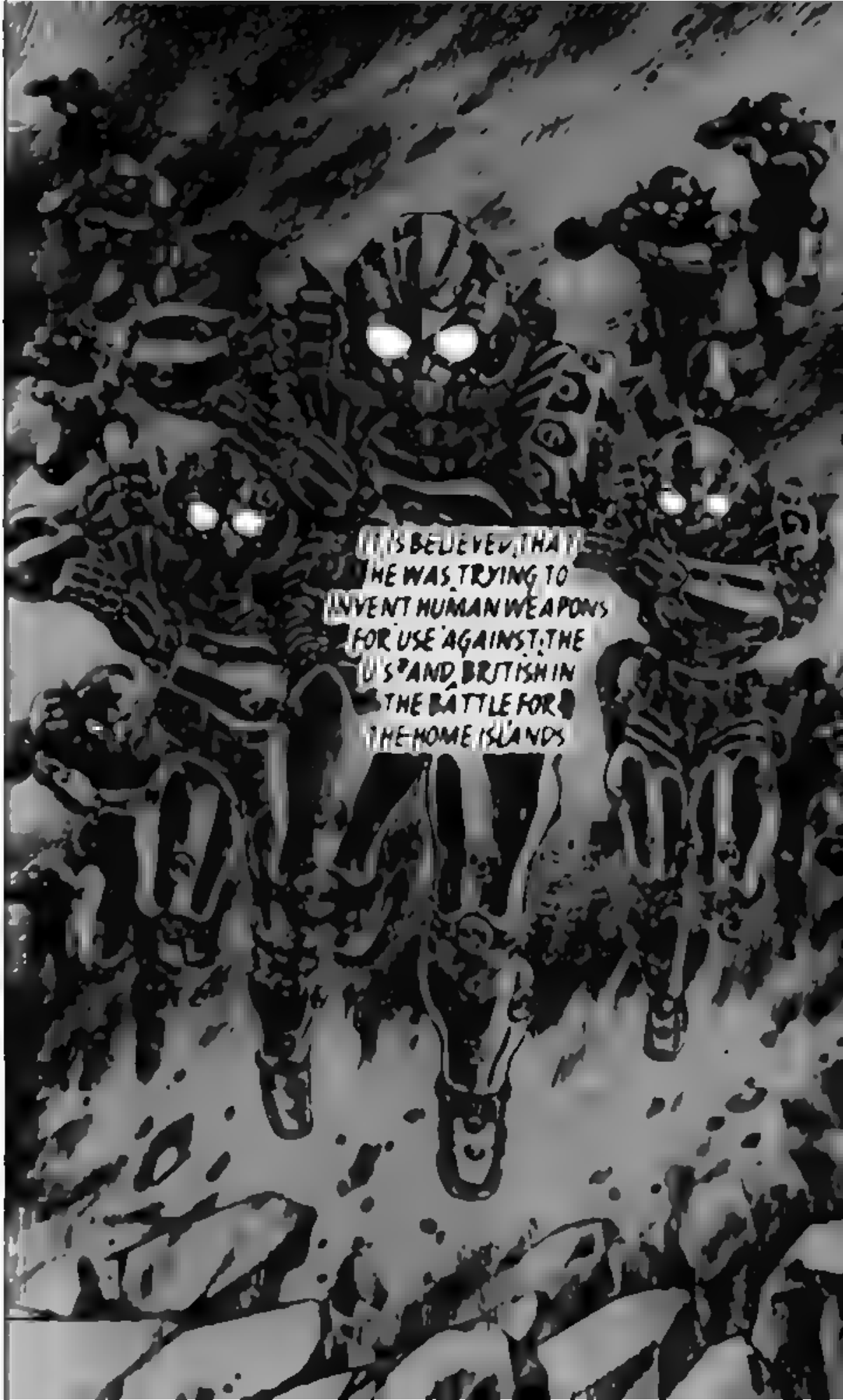
THE APPLE DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE
YOU DON'T THINK SO?

WELL, THAT DOESN'T MAKE HIM A CRIMINAL.

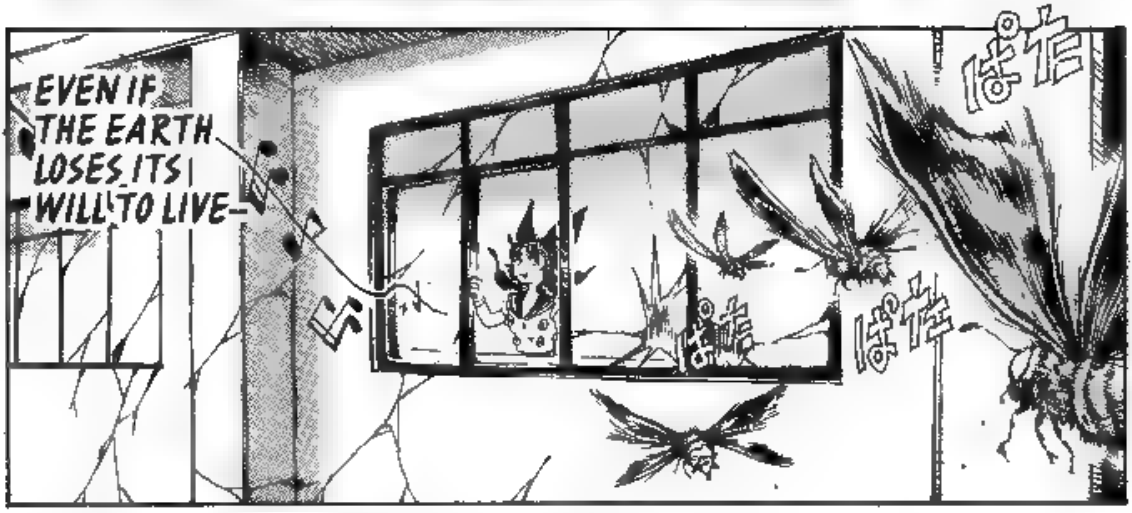
SO, WHAT WAS IT SHIRO HAGAKURE WAS TRYING TO DO?

THE DETAILS REMAIN UNKNOWN, BUT .

I APOLOGIZE
YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR MOUTH


IT IS BELIEVED THAT HE WAS TRYING TO INVENT HUMAN WEAPONS FOR USE AGAINST THE U.S. AND BRITISH IN THE BATTLE FOR THE HOME ISLANDS

THAT'S NOT APPROPRIATE, MR. ZENIGATA
HUMAN WEAPONS! THAT'S SO COOL!


EVEN IF THE EARTH LOSES ITS WILL TO LIVE—
ばた
ばた
ばた

THAT'S PRETTY GOOD. YOU SOUND JUST LIKE MADONNA.

—JUST REMEMBER THE SONG OF

I DON'T SOUND LIKE ANYBODY ELSE.
NO, I DON'T.
I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN I'M TOLD THAT I SOUND LIKE SOMEONE ELSE.
AND I AM THE ONLY ME IN THE WORLD
I'M ME.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SMILING ABOUT?

DON'T GET COCKY
HE'S RIGHT YOU'RE STANDING OUT WAY TOO MUCH.
YOU'RE GETTING TOO MUCH ATTENTION FOR A NEW KID, YOU KNOW!
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
HORIE IS MINE! DON'T YOU LAY A FINGER ON HER!
THAT'S NOT ALL!
IT'LL CHANGE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.
I DRAW ATTENTION BECAUSE I'M NEW.
FINE, THEN DIE!
NO ONE CAN OWN ANOTHER HUMAN BEING.

OOOH!!
NO WAY!!!
HE JUMPED!
OH?

STRIVE TO AVOID USING VIOLENCE
REMEMBER, HORIE IS MINE!
I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, AND AGAIN!
DAMN YOU, HAGAKURE!
STRIVE FOR MUTUAL RESPECT.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SHY.
OH GOD, NO!
AAAAAH!
HIROKO! HIROKO!
SO CUTE, MON CHER!!
I'M GOING TO SHUT YOUR MOUTH!
HIROKO!
I'M PISSED!
YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT HER?

ヒロポン

ボチュ

MMMPH
チュチュチュー

IT'S PROOF OF MY ETERNAL LOVE.

ARRG-GHHA!
THAT HICKEY WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR.

THERE IS A THREAT ALERT IN THE VICINITY OF GYAKUJUJI SCHOOL!
ALL STUDENTS MUST BE ARMED
GO HOME WITH THE STUDENTS FROM YOUR BLOCK IN A GROUP.
I LIVE IN THE DORMITORY BEHIND THE SCHOOL.
HAGAKURE, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
UM...
I LIVE IN BLOCK ONE.
3 B
2 B
1 B
IT'S NICE THAT YOU LIVE CLOSE BY
DARN IT
WELL, I'LL BE GOING NOW.
HURRY UP, HORIE. LET'S GO HOME.
DON'T HIT ME.

HEY, HORIE...

WHO'S THAT GIRL WITH THE RIBBON?

WHY'S SHE GOT THREE MEN AROUND HER?

THEY'RE THE EYES OF A MURDERER
THERE'S DANGER IN HIS EYES

WELL, THAT'S GOOD

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S HIDING SOMETHING

YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL WITH THAT HAGAKURE
1 B
WHY?

AAH!

AHH!
OOH!
THERE!

AHAH-AHA!

HAOKA!

AAAAH!

I WILL LOVE YOU NICE AND SLOW LATER.
SLEEP FOR NOW, MON CHÉRI.

I WILL LOVE YOU LIKE I LOVED KAZU.

YOU WON'T GET OFF SO EASY!
BUT I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING
BUT NOT YOU!
ばっ
ぎゅっ
びくん
YET YOU'RE FLIRTING WITH THREE MEN!!
W-ばっ?
YOU'RE SO UGLY!!
YOU MUST'VE USED THAT SWEET VOICE OF YOURS TO SEDUCE THEM!
SHUT UP!
W-WHAT ARE YOU
ぐぐぐ
THAT'S NOT TRUE WE'RE JUST GOING HOME FROM SCHOOL

GOD SAVE ME!
TASTE THE HEEL OF YOUR QUEEN!
WHAT THE...!?

AND WHAT IS SHE TO YOU?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
I'M HER CLASSMATE.

第一話
覚悟完了
EPISODE TWO. KAKUGO COMPLETE

HURRY. GET OUT FROM HERE.
IT'S NOT SAFE
WHOA!
T-THAT VOICE...
SHIT!
YOU...
SON OF A...
OH.
CLASSMATE? YEAH RIGHT!

B-BUT

GET THE HELL OUT OF THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HORIE!?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
RUN! HURRY!

ボゴッ!!
I'LL BURY YOU!
AH!

AAAH
AHAHA-HAHA!
HURRY! HORIE!
ばたたた
バキバキバキ

YES!
ばっ

VERY WELL!
IF I GAVE UP THAT EASILY, I COULDN'T BE YOUR QUEEN!
I REQUEST YOU MOVE YOUR LEG!
I HAVE NO DESIRE TO FIGHT YOU!
PAINLESS ANAESTHETIC LIQUID!

HOWEVER, ASSUMING THAT SHE WEIGHS ABOUT 7 TONS, IT WILL TAKE THREE DAYS TO REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS.
THIS ANESTHESIA IS HARMLESS.

MUMMU-MMMPH
ジュワ

I TOLD YOU, HE'S A MURDERER!
I THINK HE PUT HER TO SLEEP WITH A DRUG

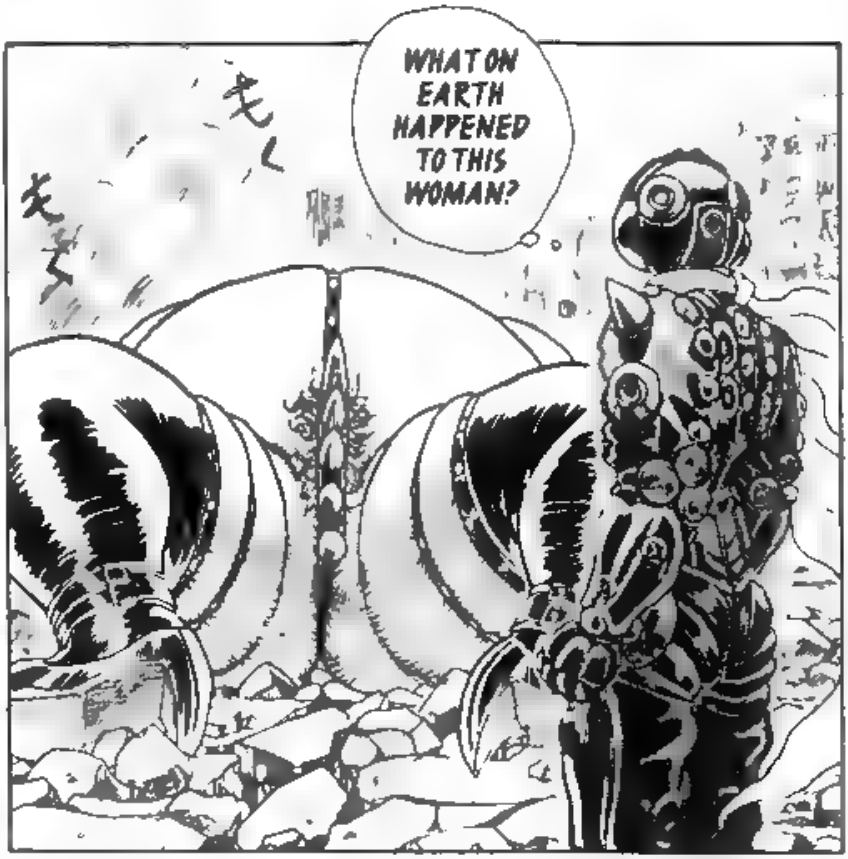
IT'S HAGAKURE
WHO'S THAT GUY IN THE BONDAGE COSTUME?
DID YOU SEE THAT?

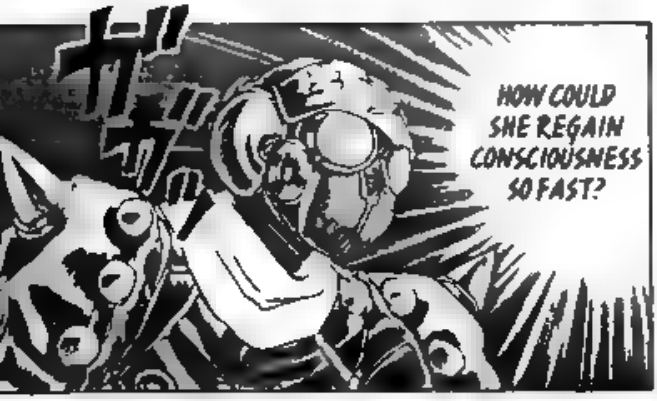
UHUH.

HAGAKURE?

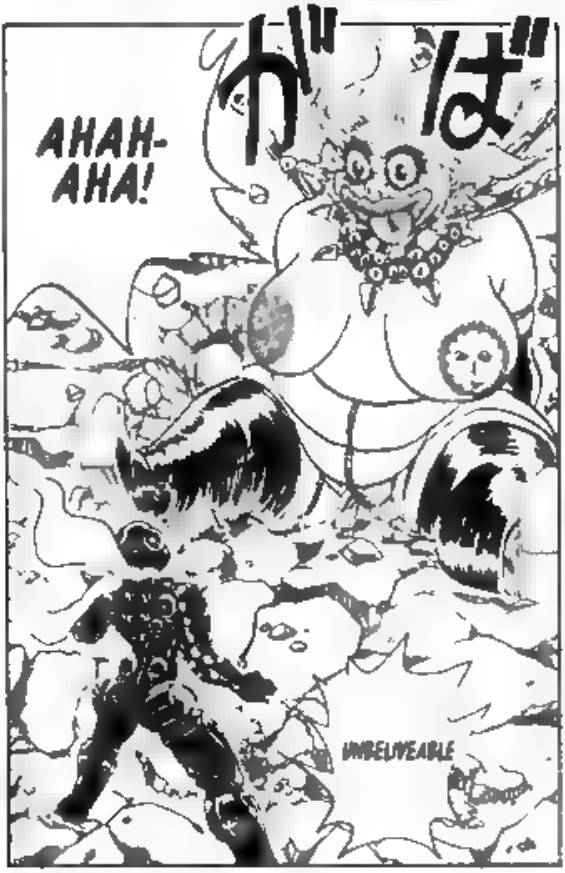
HEHEHEH!

WHAT!?


WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED TO THIS WOMAN?


HOW COULD SHE REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS SO FAST?

WHAT A CONSTITUTION!
IT'S FAR BEYOND THAT OF ANY HUMAN!


AHAH-AHA!
UNBELIVEABLE

HOLY SHIT! HER MOUTH IS SPLIT TO HER EARS. .
LOOK AT HER BACK!
HOW DARE YOU SQUIRT ON MY BEAUTIFUL FACE?
AHAHA-HAHA!
ムキ
ムキ
ムキ
WHAT'S THAT!?
WHAT

I'LL BATHE YOU IN MY HOT JUICE!
SHE ISN'T HUMAN!
ERGH

AHAHA-HAHA!
HAGA-KURE!
HEAR THAT, HORIE? LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
HAOKA, THIS IS BAD. THE GAS LINES AROUND HERE ARE LEAKING
SOMEBODY MAKE A WISH!
LET'S LIGHT SOME CANDLES!
NO WAY

I MUST CATCH IT!
IF SHE USES THAT FIRE BREATH MUCH MORE IT'LL CAUSE AN EXPLOSION
SOMEBODY MAKE A WISH!
I'LL MELT THAT ARMOR OFF YOU!
I HAVE NO CHOICE!
I'LL USE

ZERO FORM, DIRECT THRUST!

SPLOOSH
ズズーン
ごぼっ
YOU SHALL NEVER REGAIN YOUR INHUMAN POWERS
I STRUCK YOUR SPINAL CORD THROUGH YOUR STOMACH

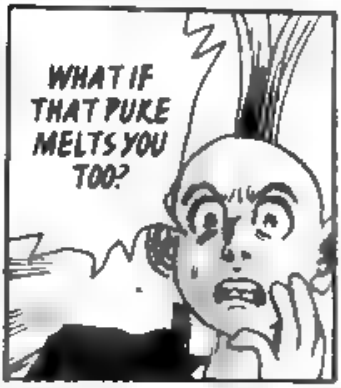
MASSIVE PUKE!
おげー
MY GOD. SO MANY HUMAN SKELETONS
どべ
ばちゃ!
YAAH!
SOMETHING MOVED!
OH!

A PUKE MONSTER!?
I'M SO COLD.
SO COLD.
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
...
HOW AWFUL.
THAT MONSTER MUST'VE EATEN HIM ALIVE...
WHAT? ARE YOU SURE?
IT'S SHIMADA!
WHERE AM I?
HELP ME..
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING...
T-THAT VOICE...!

HIROKO
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? NO AMBULANCE'LL COME TO DISTRICT 04
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU'D BE BETTER OFF DEAD, SHIMADA
SHIMADA, HANG IN THERE!
IT'LL BE FINE! WE'RE ALL HERE FOR YOU!

SEE?
YOU'RE NOT
COLD ANYMORE

STOP IT,
HORIE.


WHAT IF
THAT PUKE
MELTS YOU
TOO?

HORIE...?

YOU'RE
GONNA
BE FINE
YOU'RE
GONNA
BE FINE

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU
I'M HUNGRY NOW!

CAN SHE BE STOPPED?
I'M HUNGRY FOR LOVE!
WHAT IS THE ULTIMATE LOVE?
IT'S TWO PEOPLE BECOMING ONE.
MEANING THAT YOUR FLESH BECOMES MINE.

I LOVE YOU!
I LOVE YOU, MON CHÉRI!
AHA-HAHA!
AHA-HAHA!
YOU ...
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A DECLARATION OF WAR, NOT LOVE!!
PREPARING FOR ASSAULT!

KAKUGO
覚悟
COMPLETE
完了

YOU SHALL PAY FOR YOUR CORRUPT BELIEFS!
IN THE END, LOVE ALWAYS WINS!
IT'S NO USE!

ZERO FORM, IMPACT, DIRECT KICK

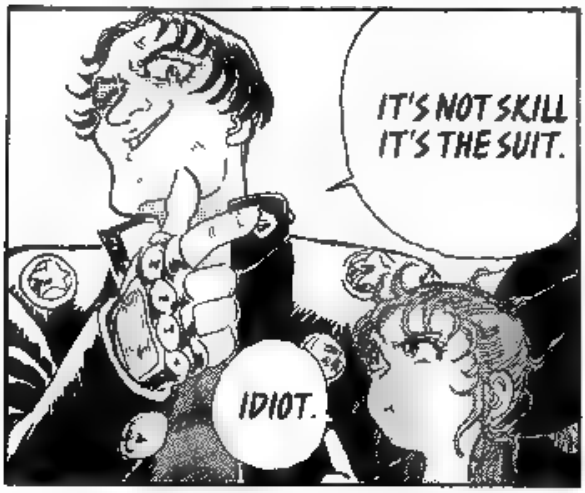
ARRRGH!
REST IN PEACE!

YOU WILL NOT RISE UNTIL RESURRECTION DAY.
スッ
YOUR LOVE IS AN ACT OF VIOLENCE
HAGAKURE!
たたたた
ALL RIGHT!
YEAH!
HE DID IT!.

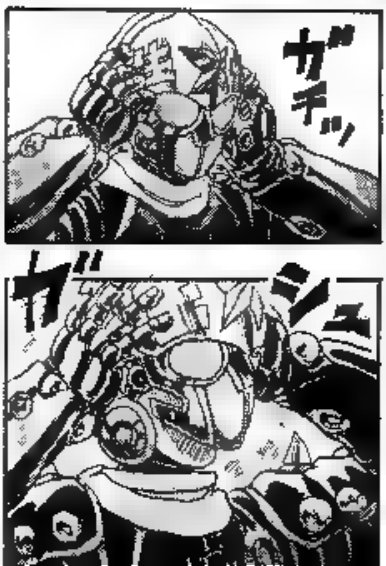
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SAVING US!

ARRGH!
YES, WE ARE!
IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?

HEY HAGAKURE, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT COSTUME?


IT'S NOT SKILL IT'S THE SUIT.
IDIOT.

AND THAT SPEED! WITH THE SUIT, YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO FEAR, DO YOU?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SURVIVED GETTING BLASTED BY THAT FIRE.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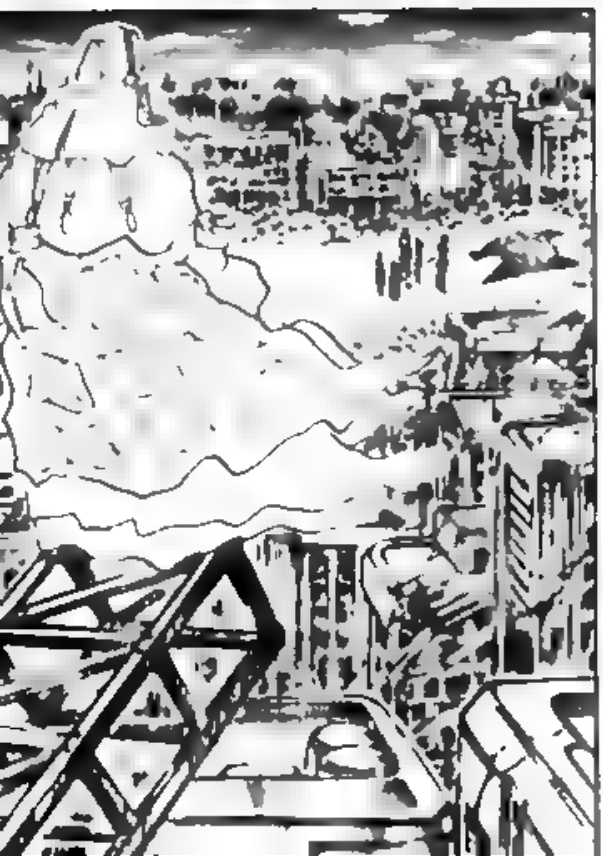
HAGAKURE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, I AM.



YO
NAGAKURE

HE DEFEATED THE TACTIC FIEND WE CREATED...
WHO IS THAT YOUNG MAN?

第三話 零式防衛術
EPISODE THREE, ZERO FORM DEFENSE

I DON'T THINK SHE'S HUMAN
I WONDER WHERE SHE'S FROM
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO BIG
SHE'S GIGANTIC
HEY, HAGAKURE, WHAT THE HELL IS SHE?
I DON'T KNOW

IT'S MY FATHER'S LEGACY.
THIS IS FORTIFIED ARMOR SHELL, ZERO.
WELL THEN, WHAT'S THAT COSTUME YOU'RE WEARING?
EXCUSE ME, BUT
DO YOU HAVE A MOTHER, OR ANY FAMILY?
SUCH SAD EYES.
THIS PLACE TURNS INTO HELL WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN.
WE'D BETTER GET GOING.
ばさ
HEY!
HE'S AN ORPHAN! OH NO! HOW COULD I BE SO INSENSITIVE?

YOU ALREADY HELPED HIM DIE A HAPPY MAN!
FORGET HIM!
HE'LL NEVER REST IN PEACE
WAIT! WE CAN'T LEAVE SHIMADA LIKE THAT
しゅん
YOUR PRAYERS WILL BE ENOUGH.
IF YOU BURY HIM AROUND HERE, THE RATS WILL DIG HIM UP ANYWAY
I'M GOING TO BURY HIM.
IT'S NO USE, HORIE
ARR-RGH!
カミソ
HORIE.
PLEASE STAND BACK.

うわー

ゴオオオ

SHIMADA IS ASCENDING INTO THE HEAVENS IN A BEACON OF LIGHT

DON'T RETURN TO THIS AWFUL WORLD AGAIN

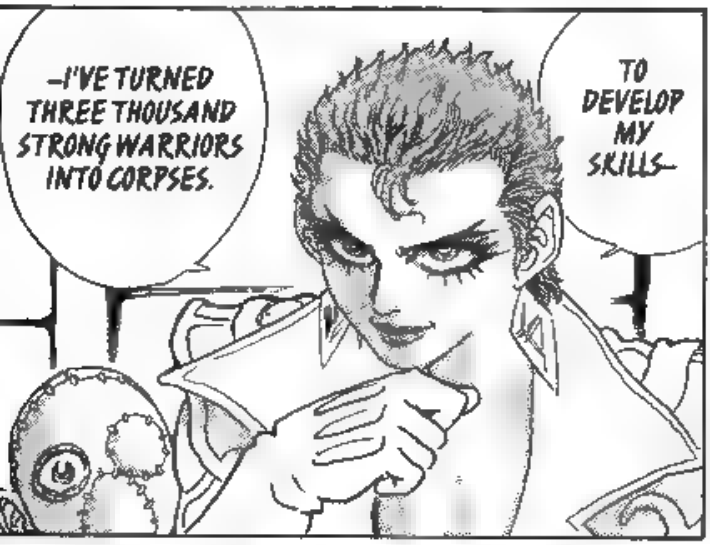
NO NEED TO FEEL SORROW
OUR CLASSMATE HAS RETURNED TO A MORE PEACEFUL PLACE

NEO TOKYO
SECTOR 13

CARAN CASTLE

ALL THE FOOD, SOLDIERS EVERYTHING
I WILL GIVE YOU THIS CASTLE IF YOU CAN DEFEAT ME

YOU'RE OPTIMISTIC.
BETTER NOT
YOU BETTER NOT BE KIDDING
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD DEAL.
HEH HEH HEH.
WANTING TO SPAR WITH US, HUH?


—I'VE TURNED THREE THOUSAND STRONG WARRIORS INTO CORPSES.
TO DEVELOP MY SKILLS—

I AM JACKAL. I'VE KILLED 63 WRESTLERS IN LESS THAN A SECOND

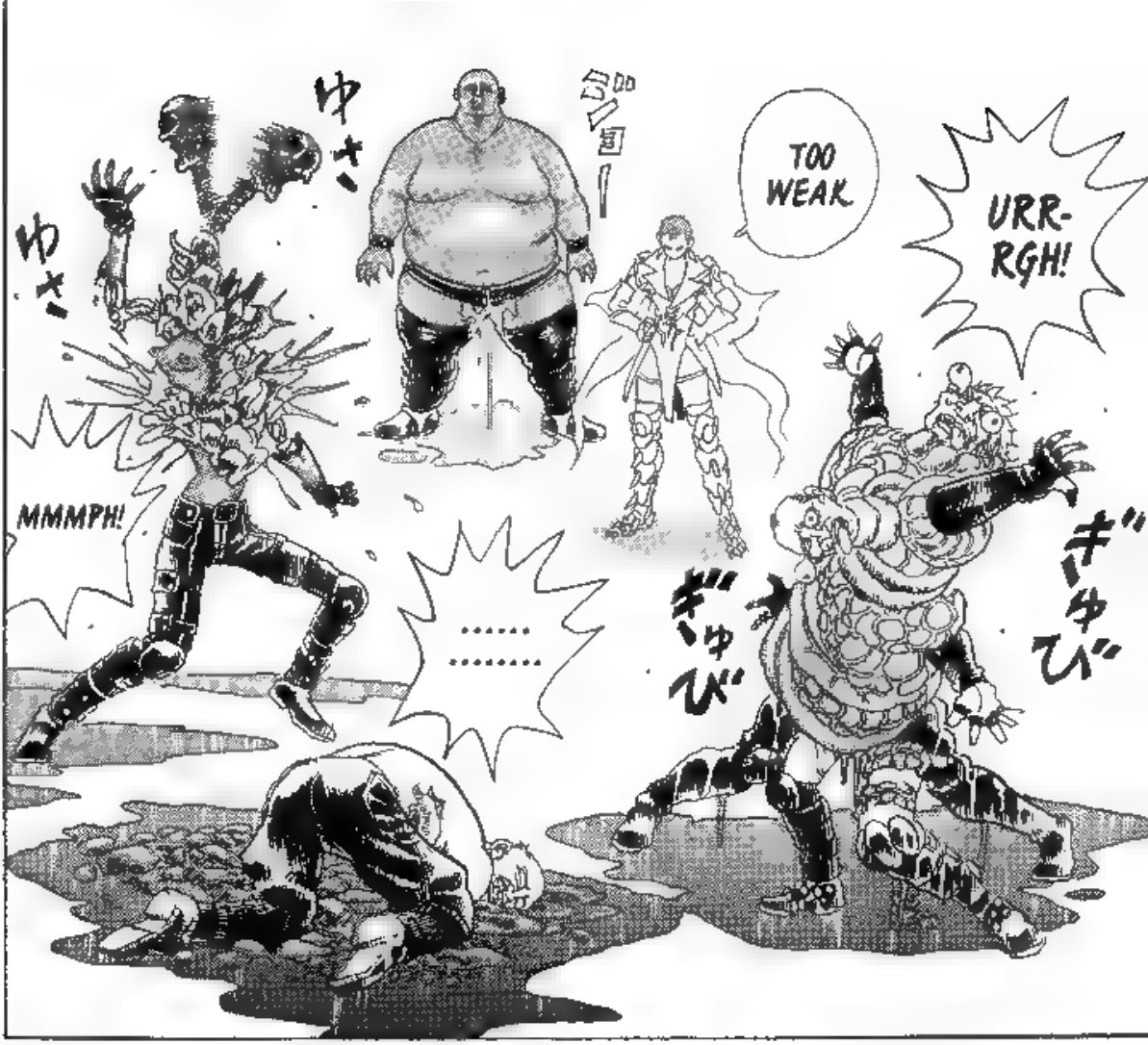
THAT'S FUNNY.
THE PRINCE IS DELUSIONAL.
DIDJA HEAR THAT?

TIME FOR A REALITY CHECK!

EH?!
ZERO FORM, SUCTION PALM STRIKE!

AH!
AGH!

AAA-
AH!
OOOH!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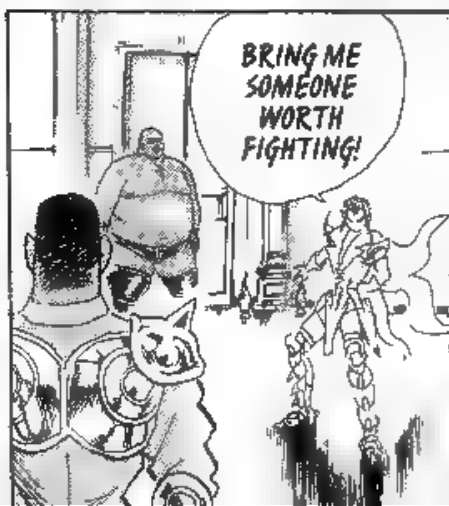
TOO WEAK.
URR-RGH!
MMMPH!
.....
.....
ぎゃび
ぎゃび

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

IT'S NOT LIKELY THAT WE'LL FIND HUMANS STRONGER THEN THEM.
BUT THOSE MEN WERE WORLD CHAMPION PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS.

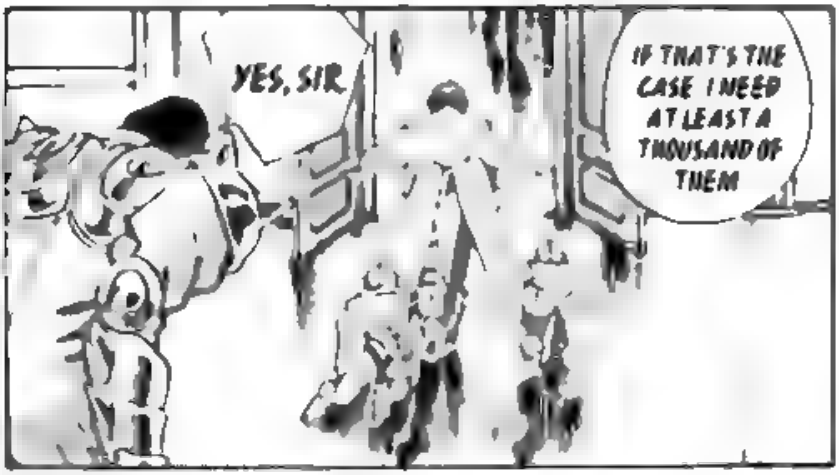
IT DIDN'T EVEN ENTERTAIN ME


BRING ME SOMEONE WORTH FIGHTING!

ZERO FORM DEFENSE.
ULTIMATE FIGHTING FORM
WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU JUST DO?
WHAT THE .
AAAH!
EEEE-ARGH!

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?
WHAT?
ZERO FORM, SPIRAL WAVE BLOW!
DON'T GET SO AGITATED
EH?
MM-MPH
HE WHO DOESN'T SMILE WHEN HE EXPIRES WILL NOT BE REBORN.

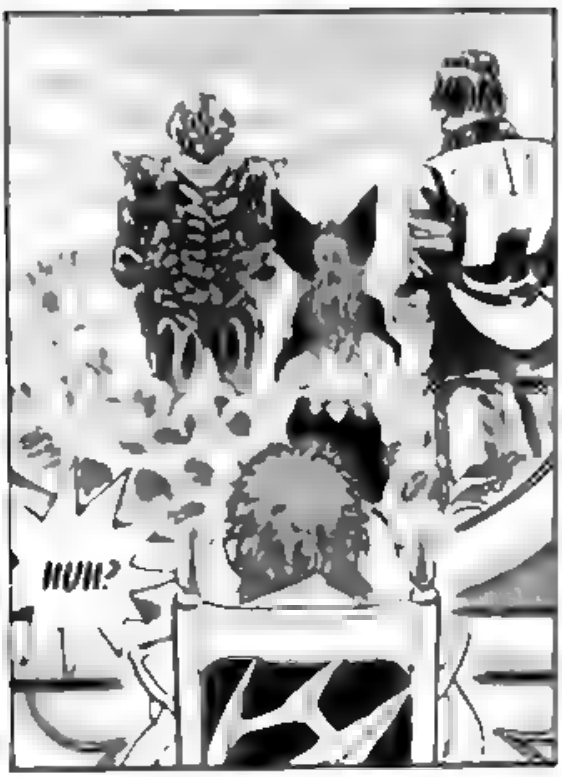
URRR-
RGH!


YES, SIR.
IF THAT'S THE CASE I NEED AT LEAST A THOUSAND OF THEM

MASTER HARARA
HOW BORING IT IS TO BE A SUPERIOR BEING
TACTICAL FIEND, HAMUKO WAS DEFEATED BY AN ARMED CITIZEN TODAY
I'M NOT HUNGRY TONIGHT
THE MAN WAS NOT EVEN A SOLDIER, BUT A LONE STUDENT

WHEN I ARRIVED AT THE SCENE, SHE WAS ALREADY
ENOUGH TALKING

THIS IS


HUH?

THE FORTIFIED ARMOR SHELL ZAP

!
HE IS MY YOUNGER BROTHER
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
DO I KNOW HIM?

第四話 戦術鬼
EPISODE FOUR, TACTICAL FIEND

YOU'LL PAY!
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR IT.
YOU'RE NO LONGER MY BROTHER.

WHOEVER STANDS IN MY WAY IS DESTINED TO DIE!
BACK OFF, KAKUGO!
I WASN'T EXPECTING TO WALK AWAY FROM THIS BATTLE ANYWAY.
I RESPECT YOUR CONVICTION
BUT I WILL STOP YOU EVEN IF I DIE IN THE PROCESS!

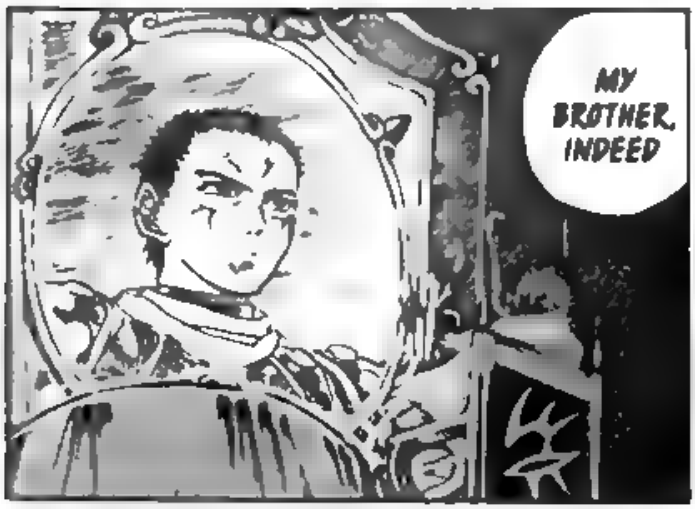
I'LL PAINT THIS SNOW RED!
IMPACT!
SPIRAL!

GRRRN

ARRGH!

FAREWELL, KAKUGO.
YOUR DYING EXPRESSION WAS PRICELESS.

I THOUGHT THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I'D SEE HIM, BUT

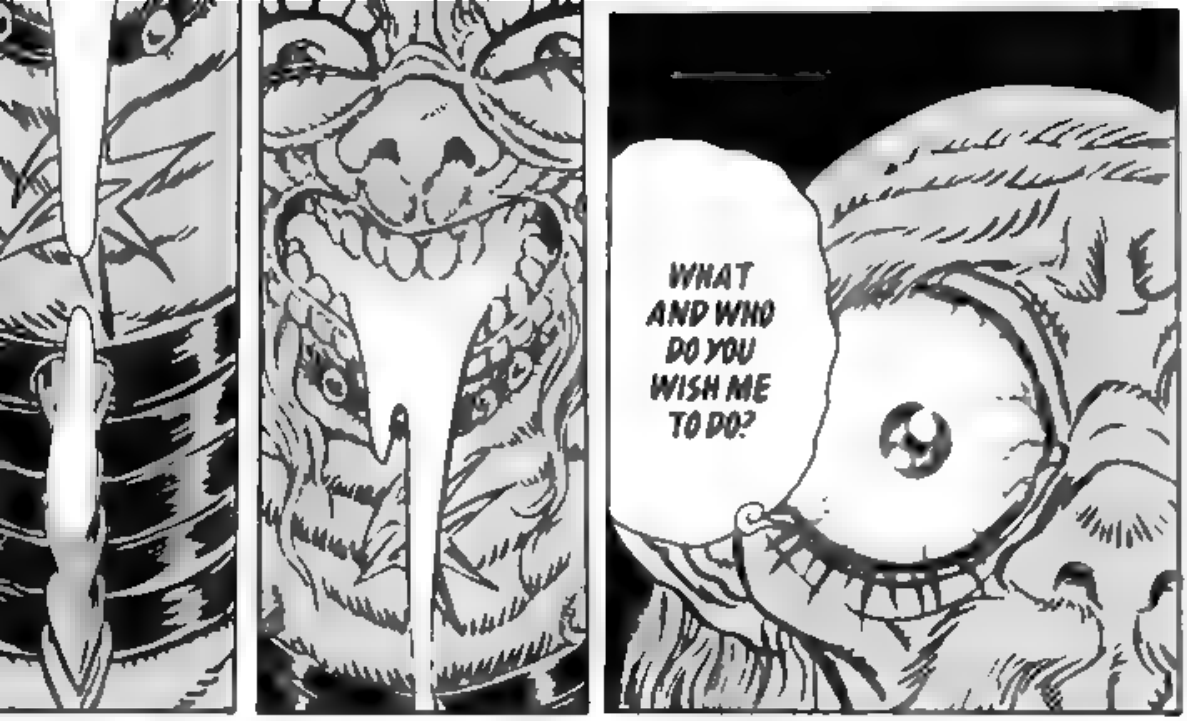

MY BROTHER, INDEED

I'VE SUMMONED TACTICAL FIEND, EIKICHI.

MASTER HARARA.

HEH.
PANT
PANT
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU! EIKICHI
PANT PANT
YOU CAN BE SO CRUEL, MASTER HARARA.
HOW COULD YOU MAKE AN OLD FOSSIL LIKE ME COME ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP FLOOR?

EIKICHI, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AN OLD FOSSIL.
INSOLENT FOOL! WATCH YOUR MOUTH!
YOU FLATTER ME SO, MASTER HARARA
AWWW.
YOU'RE FULL OF LIFE. I CAN FEEL IT
YOU'RE STILL QUITE CAPABLE!
IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU, MASTER HARARA
MASTER HARARA, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO TREATS ME WITH SUCH RESPECT
I NEED YOUR HELP.


WHAT AND WHO DO YOU WISH ME TO DO?

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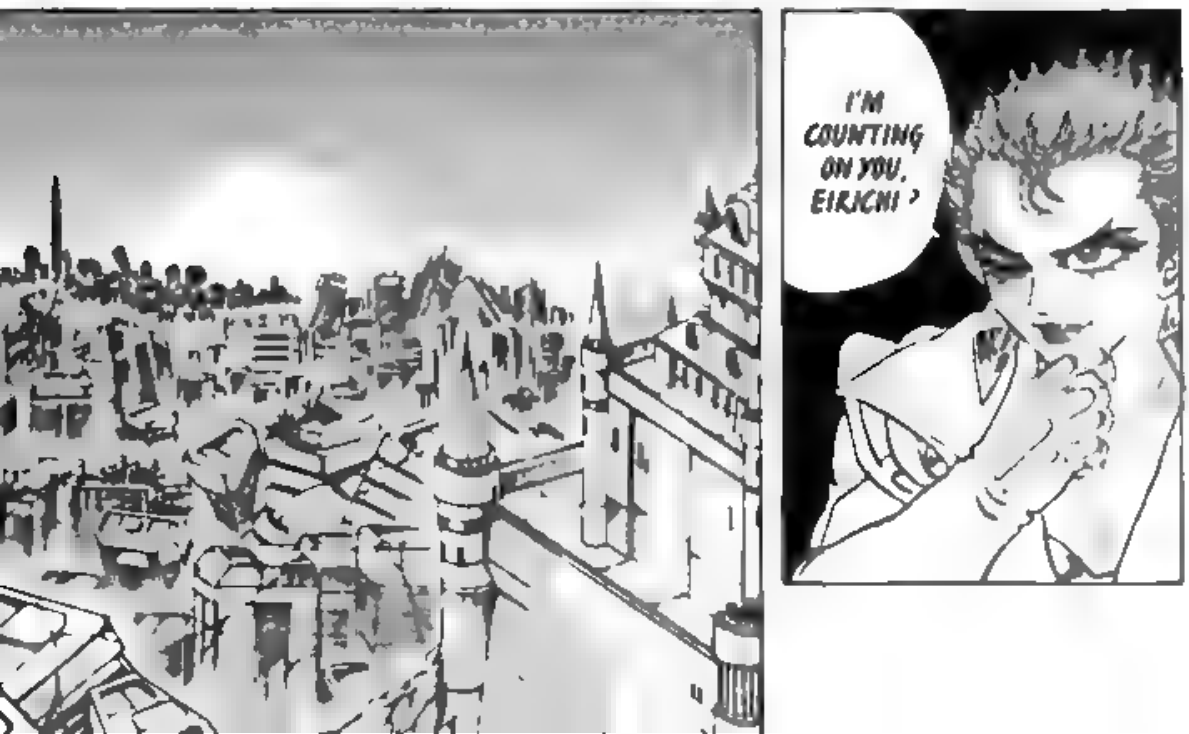

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, EIKICHI !

GYAKUJUJI SCHOOL
IT'S KINDA HARD TO BELIEVE
HAGAKURE IS MY HERO.
WOW, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY?
THAT'S RIGHT.
2-1
HE WAS SO AMAZING.
GOOD MORNING!
!
TSUMIKO, HERE HE COMES

GOOD MORNING.
MORNING
GOOD MORNING
I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY
UM, AHEM
MY DESK.
きらぴか

I'M HORIE.
堀江
TO THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY, I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF CLEANING YOUR DESK.
LOVE WILL AFFECT MY FOCUS..
MUST NOT LET MY HEART THROB.
MUST NOT LET MY HEART SWAY ME.
YOU'RE WELCOME.
THANK YOU.
OH NO. HE ISN'T SAYING ANYTHING. . MAYBE HE'S ANNOYED ..
江

HELP YOURSELF
がぽん
ぽ
ACK!
HEY, NORJE WHY DON'T YOU CLEAN MY DESK, TOO?
ガ"
INTRUDER ON THE PROPERTY!"
MY BODY WAS HARD AS STEEL
SCHOOL, EH? IT REMINDS ME OF THE DAYS WHEN I WAS YOUNG AND KICKING

THIS IS THE PROPERTY OF GYAKUJUJI SCHOOL!
THIS IS A WARNING.
WE ARE THE ARMED SECURITY SQUAD!
REMOVE YOURSELF IMMEDIATELY!
MY HEARING HAS GOTTEN WORSE RECENTLY.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
YOU SNOT-NOSED PUNKS!
DID YOU JUST CALL ME SENILE?
WHAT?

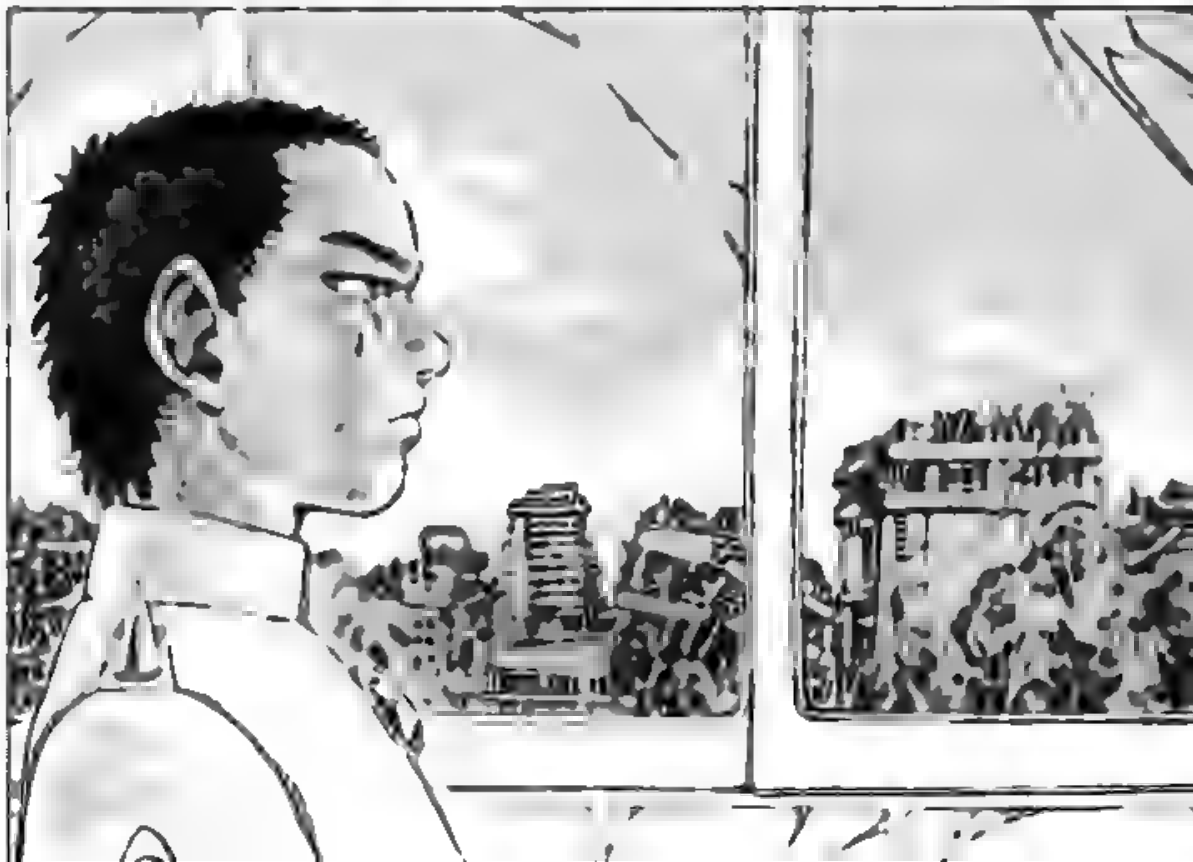
DON'T THINK YOU'LL HAVE YOUR YOUTH FOREVER.
EW!
IS HE GOING TO FIGHT WITH THAT?

EHH!
WAH!
びぉー
風紀
風紀
風紀
!!!

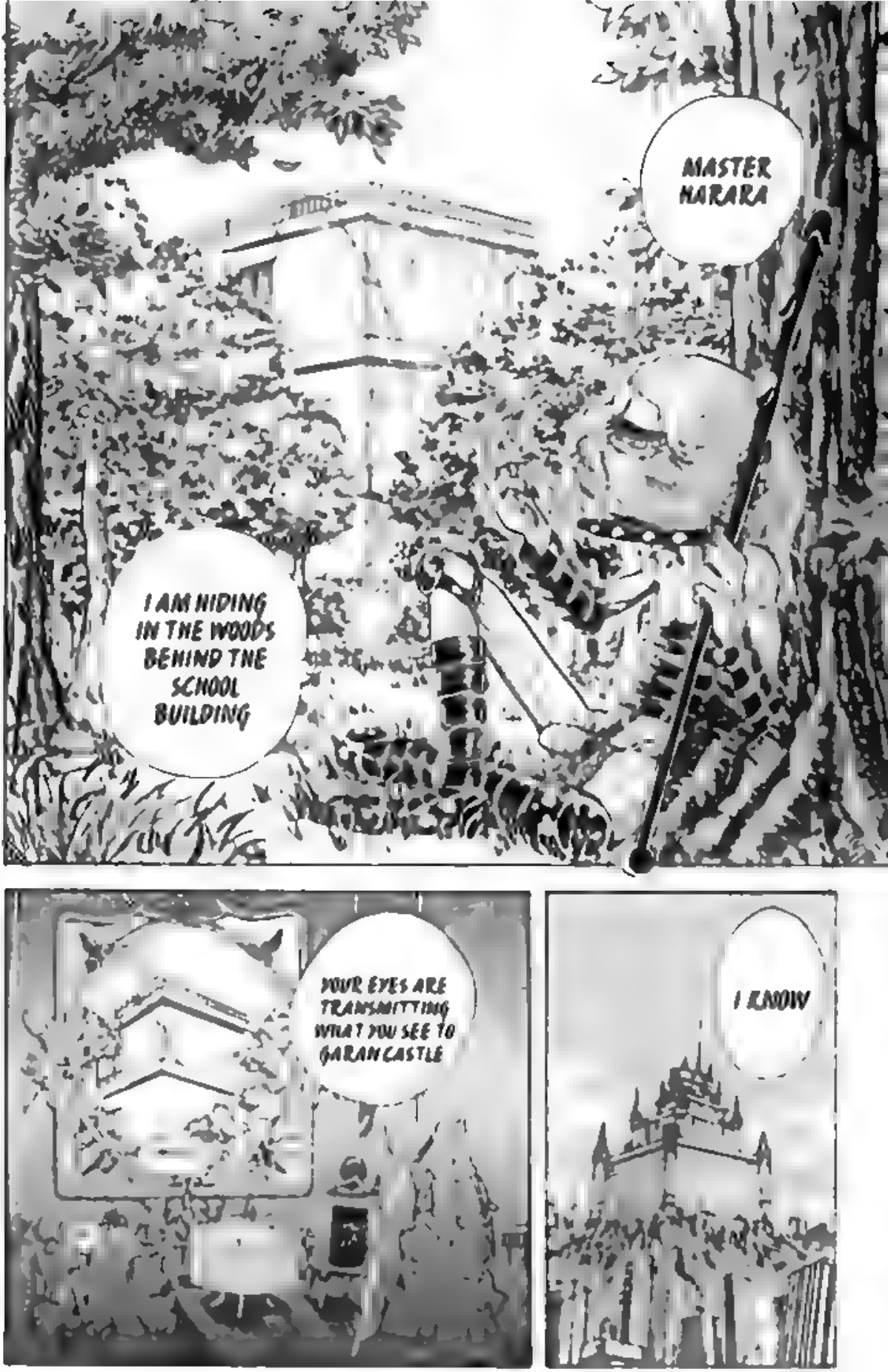
FROZEN SALIVA BULLETS!

MASTER HARARA WANTS
I SHALL GO FIND THE MAN-

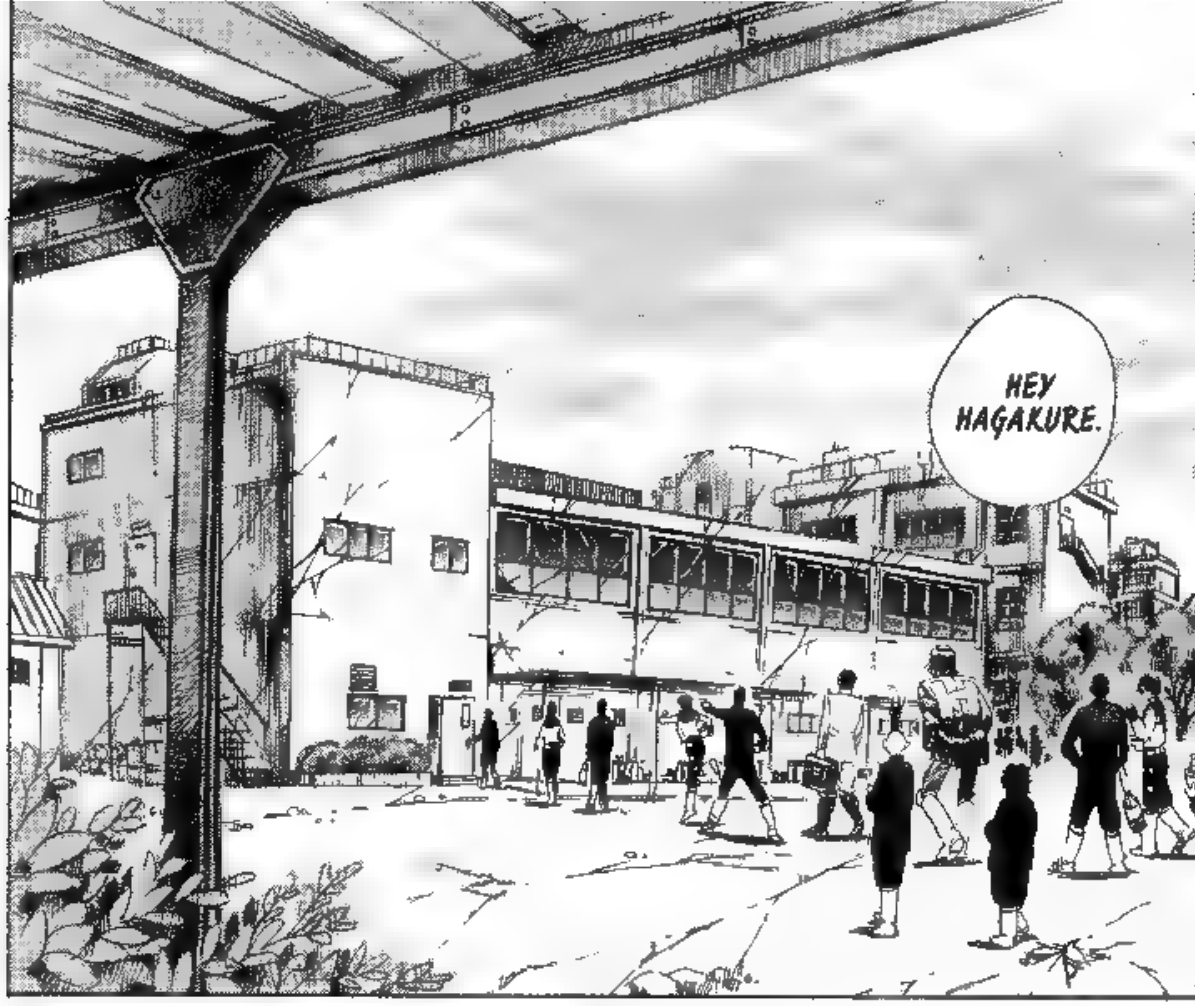
NO ONE CAN ESCAPE OLD AGE

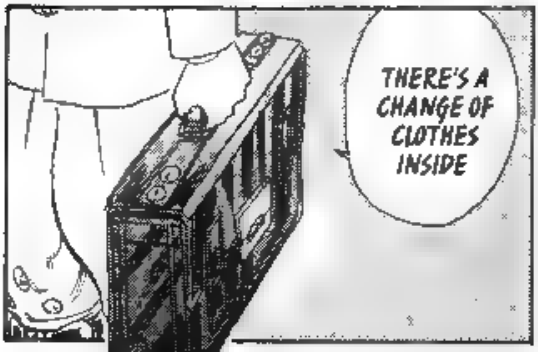


第五話 級友
EPISODE FIVE, CLASSMATE


MASTER NARARA
I AM HIDING IN THE WOODS BEHIND THE SCHOOL BUILDING
YOUR EYES ARE TRANSMITTING WHAT YOU SEE TO GARAN CASTLE
I KNOW

WHAT DO YOU SAY WE CHANGE THE PLAN AND JUST KILL THEM ALL?
REGARDING THE TARGET
IT IS A BIT OF A PAIN FOR MY OLD EYES TO FIND ONE MAN AMONG ALL THOSE STUDENTS.
HE'LL BE THE ONE WHO REMAINS CALM, AND STEPS TO YOU WITHOUT HESITATION WHEN THE TIME COMES
-YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE A PROBLEM FINDING THE TARGET
THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN, TOO. BUT-
HE'S THE TARGET, KARUGO HAGAKURE


HEY HAGAKURE.


THERE'S A CHANGE OF CLOTHES INSIDE

I PUT MY BATHING SUIT ON AT HOME
BESIDES, ALL YOU NEED IS A BATHING SUIT.
ずりん

WHY ARE YOU CARRYING THAT BIG CASE?
WE'RE JUST GOING TO THE SWIMMING POOL.

I'M JUST LETTING YOU KNOW OUT OF KINDNESS. WHAT AN ATTITUDE!
URRGH!
THAT'S NOT ALL I NEED.
OWW!
TO HELL WITH YOUR BAG!
WHAT'S IN THAT BAG?
THE CASE DIDN'T BUDGE AN INCH WHEN HAOKA KICKED IT.
ERRRGH!

GIRL'S LOCKER ROOM
EXCEPT FOR THE FACE...

HAGAKURE WILL SEE THAT I HAVE NO WAISTLINE ...
I HAVE THE BODY OF A PENGUIN ...
ぽゆん
ぽゆん
掘江
EVERYONE ELSE HAS A GREAT BODY.
I, TSUMIKO HORIE, WILL LET MY INNER BEAUTY SHINE THROUGH!
掘江
BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW ..
掘江

INFRARED STERILIZED
SWIMMING POOL

—THIS IS WHY

I THOUGHT I SMELLED
SOMETHING DELICIOUS.
I SEE

すたすた
HORIE!
I SHOULD'VE GONE ON A DIET
LOOK TSUMIKO! IT'S HAGAKURE.
!
きゃぴ
HE MAY ACT COOL, BUT HE'S REALLY A SICKO
HE'S GOT IRON BALLS BURIED IN HIS BODY
HEY CHECK HIM OUT!
IT LOOKS SO PAINFUL, BUT I CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM...
I GOT MY NIPPLE PIERCED
YOU TOO, HUH?
...

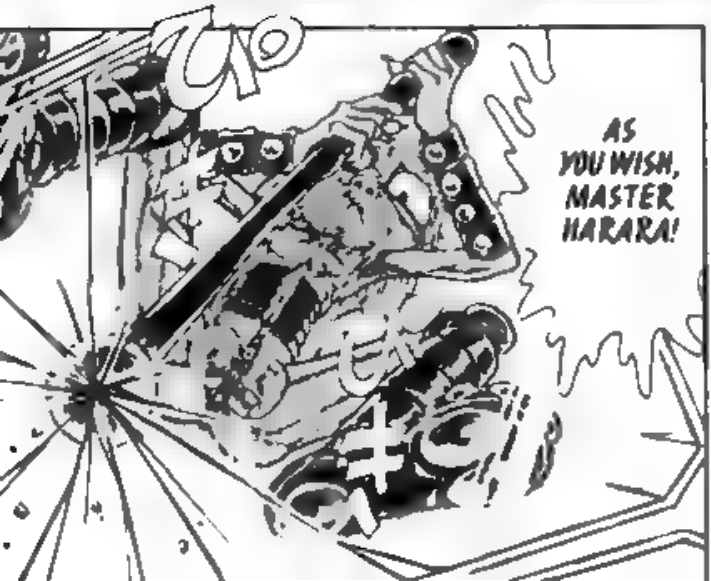
IT'S IMPORTANT TO PROTECT YOU KIDS FROM THE VIRUSES IN NEO TOKYO.
THIS WEEKLY INFRARED RAY POOL IS NO JOKE!
ALL RIGHT! CAN I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE?
IT'S ZENIGATA.
WHY IS THE PRINCIPAL ALWAYS WITH HIM ANYWAY?
THEY MUST BE WATCHING US THROUGH HIDDEN CAMERAS
YOU PERVERT!
I SUGGEST THE GIRLS TO TAKE OFF EVERYTHING!
I'LL BEAT UP A MONSTER OR WHATEVER IS AFTER YOU
I'LL EVEN DIE FOR YOU.
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND
I'M GONNA PROTECT YOU FROM TODAY ON
HEY HORIE...

WONDERFUL SCHOOL BATHING SUIT
EVEN MY EYESIGHT IS COMING BACK

OH!

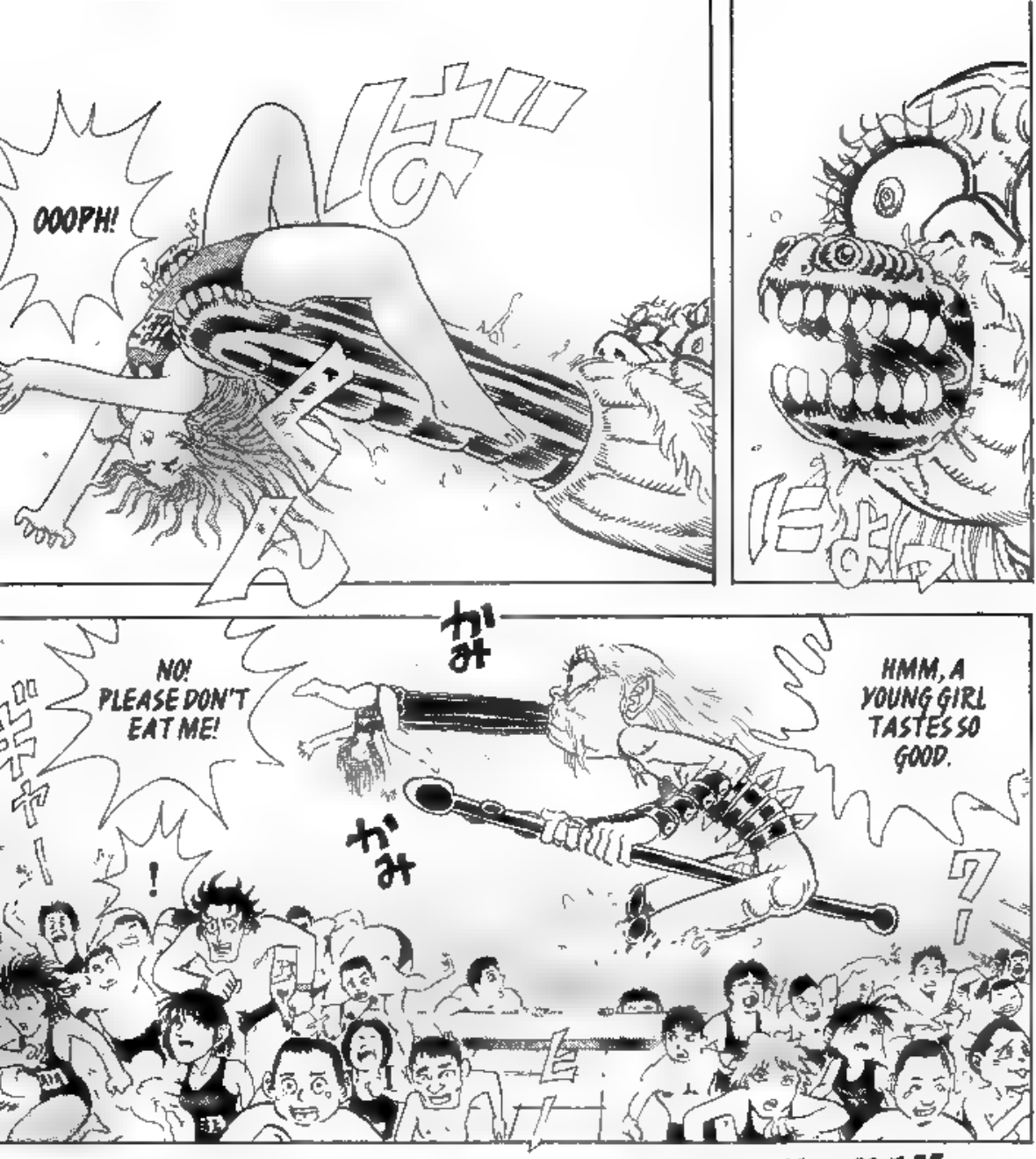
HE MAY BE UNARMED, BUT BE ON YOUR GUARD APPROACH HIM WITH CAUTION!

THAT'S HIM, EIKICHI
HE IS YOUR TARGET


AS YOU WISH, MASTER HARARA!

EEEEYAH!
EH?!
AHHH

EEEE!
OH?


OOOPH!
NO! PLEASE DON'T EAT ME!
HMM, A YOUNG GIRL TASTES SO GOOD.

HAGAKURE!

BUT HOW AM I GONNA DO IT?
OH SHIT! OH SHIT! I GOTTA SAVE HER!

HURRY AND GET OUT OF HERE, HAOKA

HORIE!

WE'VE GOTTA SAVE NORIE!
LEAVE IT TO ME
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON!
IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM

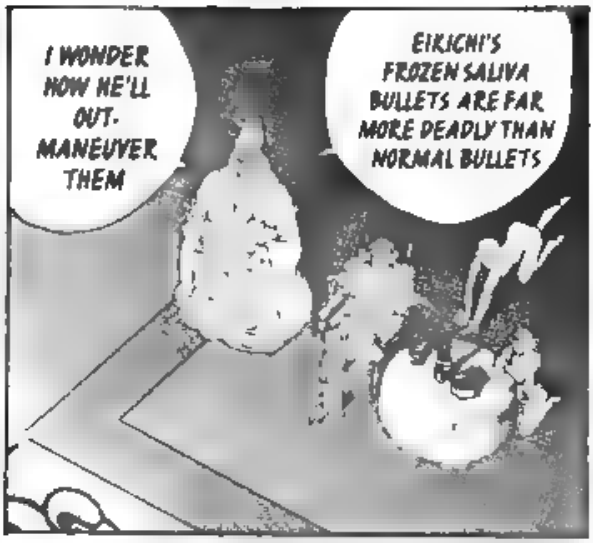
だん!
BLUBLU-
BLUB!
EEE!

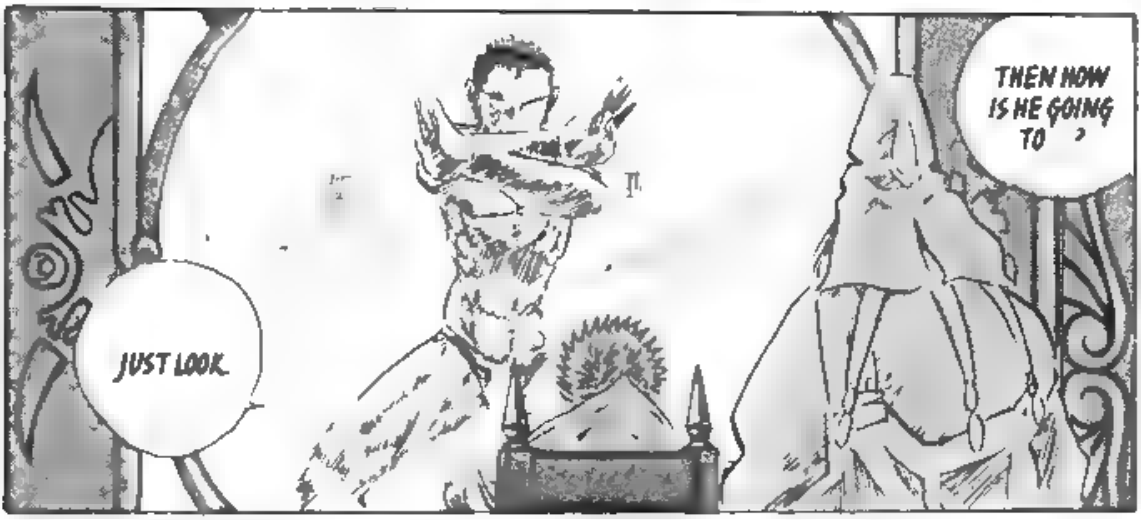
どむ
EEEE-EEAH!
HAGAKURE!
ゆらり
WATCH YOUR STEP AND RUN TO THE EXIT QUICKLY.
HORJE!
YES!

YOU MUST BE KARUGO NAGAKURE
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
WHO ARE YOU?
TASTE MY BULLETS
AT YOUR COMMAND!
NO NEED TO ANSWER. ATTACK HIM EIKICHI

HE WON'T.

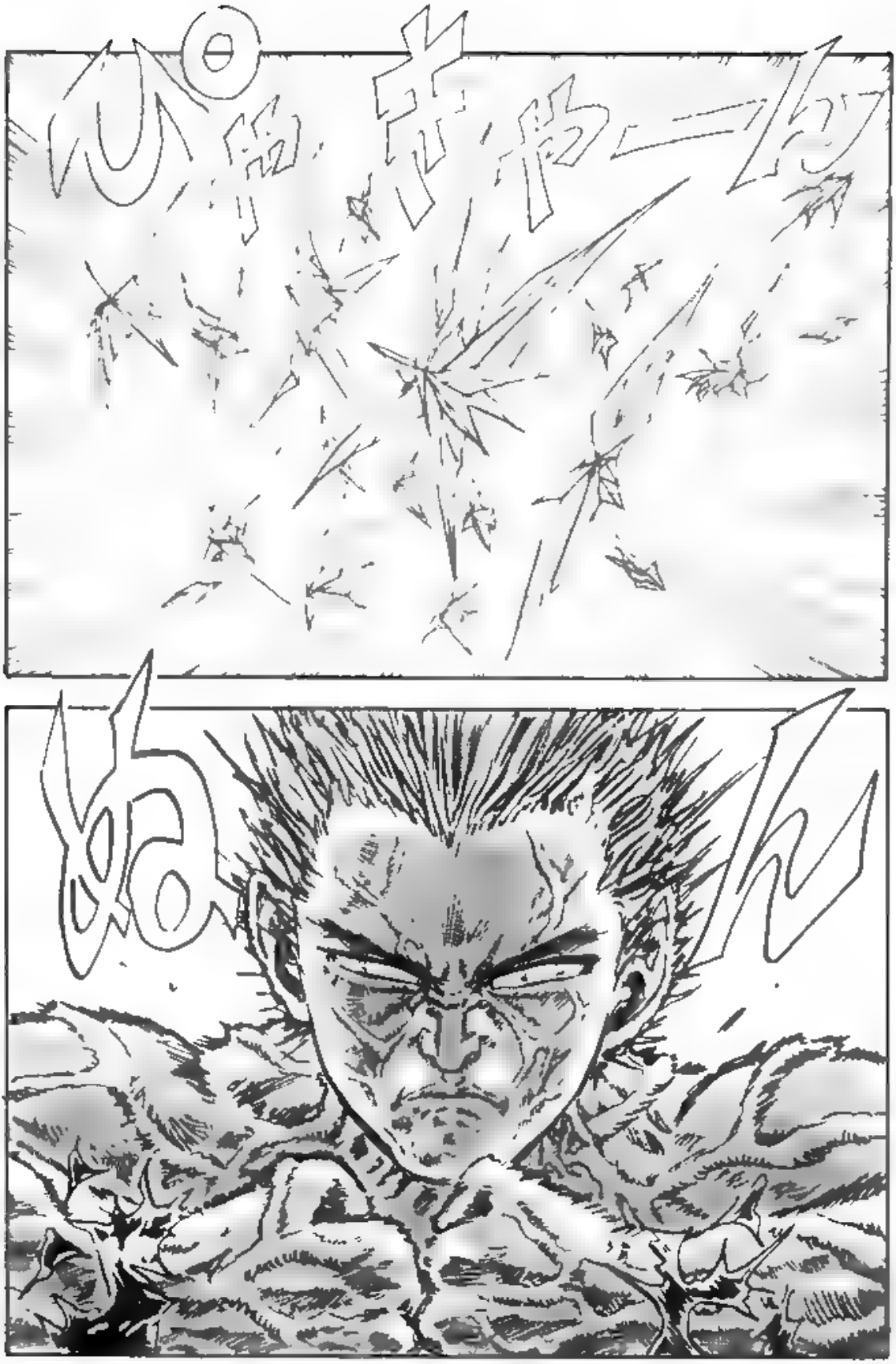
!


I WONDER HOW HE'LL OUT-MANEUVER THEM
EIKICHI'S FROZEN SALIVA BULLETS ARE FAR MORE DEADLY THAN NORMAL BULLETS

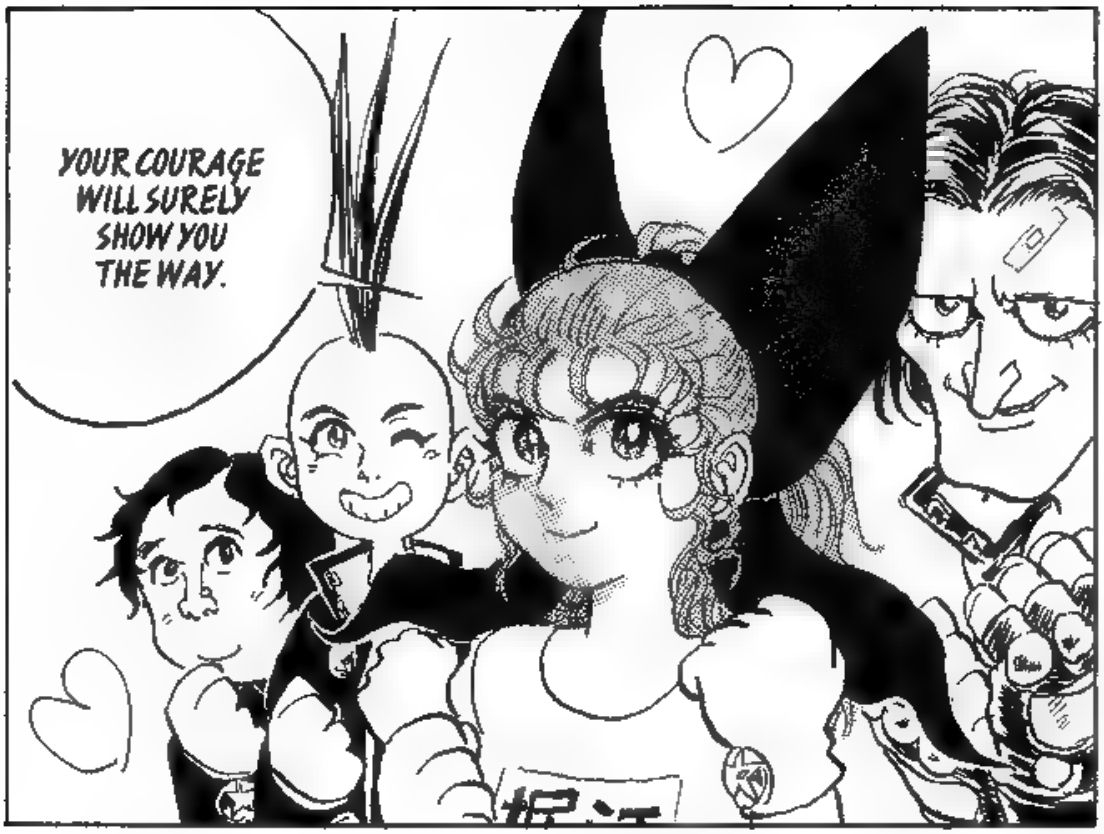

JUST LOOK.
THEN HOW IS HE GOING TO ?

THE IRON BALLS ARE BEING SUCKED INTO HIS BODY
WHAT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN?

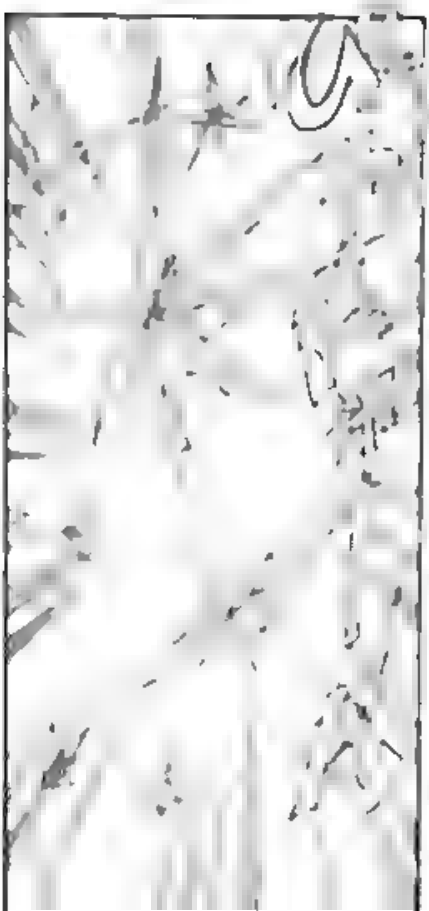
BE PREPARED! YOUNG MAN!
3!!
3!!
3!!
THAT'S MY KAKUGO.
HE'S STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF EIKICHI'S WEAPON
WHAT?



第六話 零式鉄球
EPISODE SIX, ZERO FORM, IRON BALLS


YOUR COURAGE WILL SURELY SHOW YOU THE WAY.

ZERO FUCK IRON BALL ABSURD!
ARE YOU READY? DUNE!



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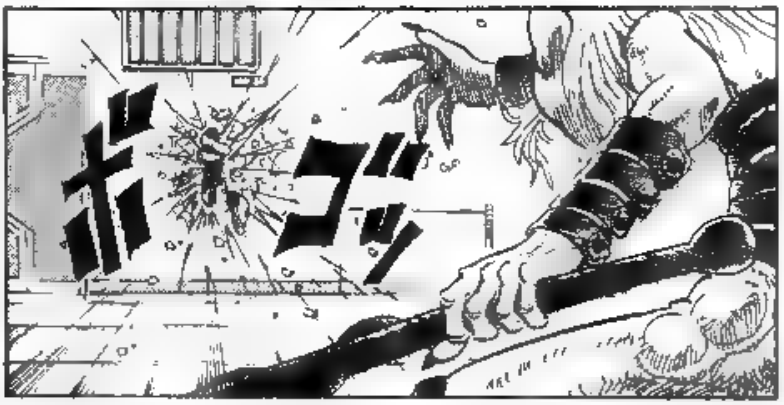
PIECE OF CAKE!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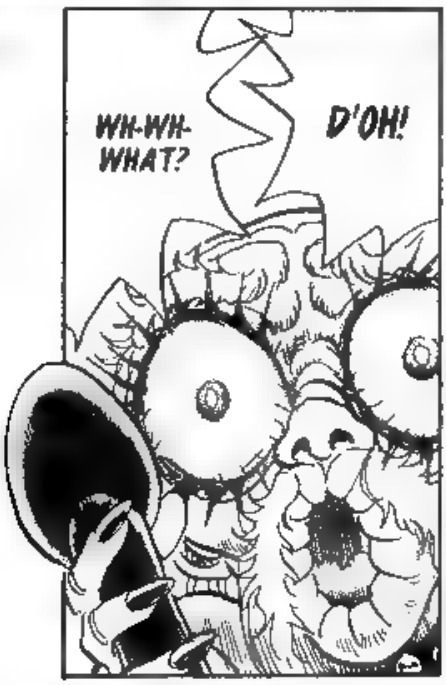
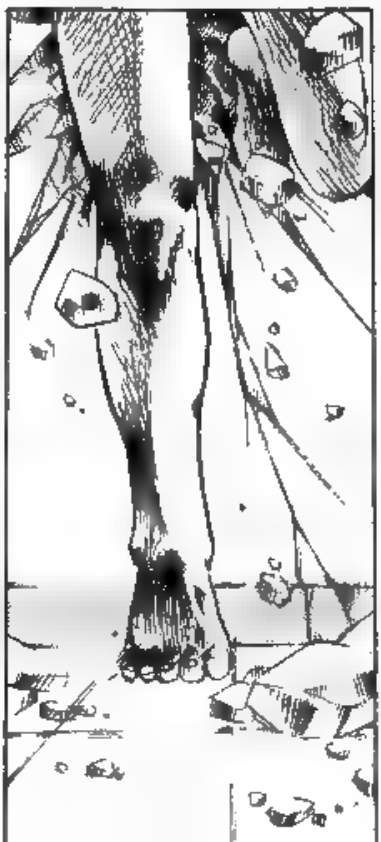
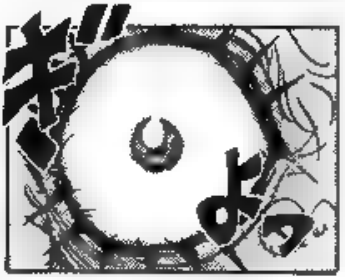

WH-WH-WHAT?
D'OH!



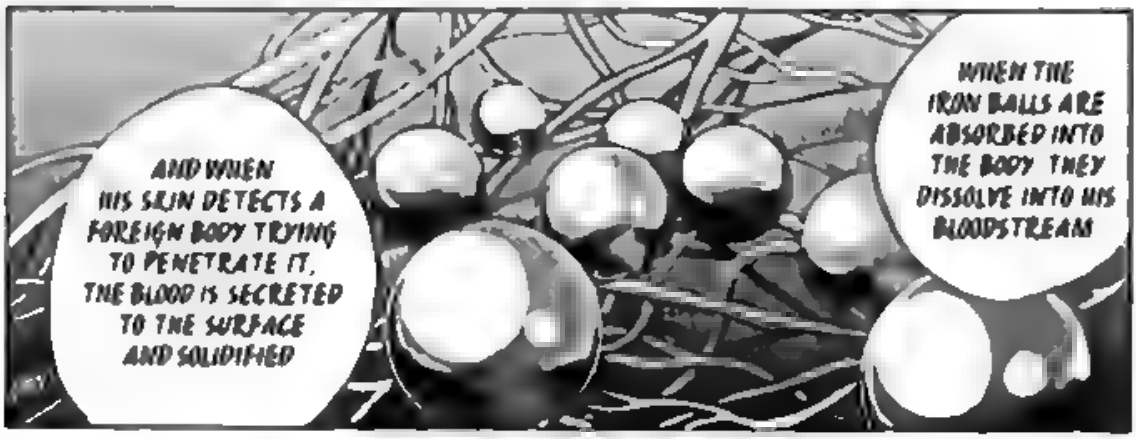


WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT!?

MASTER HARARA!
IS YOUR BROTHER A CYBORG?
NOT QUITE

ZERO FORM. IRON BALLS. BULLET PROOF FORM

THEN WHY IS HALF OF HIS BODY MADE OF STEEL?


AND WHEN HIS SKIN DETECTS A FOREIGN BODY TRYING TO PENETRATE IT, THE BLOOD IS SECRETED TO THE SURFACE AND SOLIDIFIED
WHEN THE IRON BALLS ARE ABSORBED INTO THE BODY THEY DISSOLVE INTO HIS BLOODSTREAM

THE EIGHT BALLS IN KARUGO'S BODY CAN TRANSFORM 56% OF HIS SKIN INTO ARMOR

BUT WHERE DID HE GET SUCH A POWER?
IF I DIDN'T SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT
I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF SUCH WEAPON BEFORE
FROM OUR FATHER.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HAGAKURE
A HAKAGURE DOES NOT WIN BY STAYING IN CONTROL AT ALL TIMES, BUT BY BEING ABLE TO LOSE CONTROL AND STILL SURVIVE.
OBORO HAGAKURE 47 YEARS OLD
HARARA HAGAKURE 11 YEARS OLD
KAKUGO HAGAKURE 10 YEARS OLD

EXCELLENT MATCH.
STAND DOWN!
YOU WOULD'VE DIED TWICE, KAKUGO
FORGIVE ME
YOU SURPASS ANYONE IN EMPTY-HANDED TECHNIQUE.
I'M IMPRESSED WITH BOTH OF YOU.
YOU'RE FINALLY READY TO LEARN ZERO FORM

YOUR OPPONENT HAS A GUN HOW WILL YOU FIGHT?
I WILL CATCH THE BULLETS WITH MY LEFT HAND AND FIGHT HIM WITH MY RIGHT HAND
I WILL USE MY QUICKNESS TO DODGE THE BULLETS.
BUT HOW ABOUT THIS?
WITH YOUR SKILLS, THAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE
I SEE

THIS MACHINEGUN CAN SHOOT 150 BULLETS IN HALF A SECOND
I AM FOCUSED ON THE ATTACK
NOT A PROBLEM
FIGHTING IS SOMETHING EVEN A DOG CAN DO

BUT WE, THE HAGAKURE, MUST WIN AT ANY COST!
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しゅ
YES, SIR!
SHOOT ME! AND NOT EVEN ONE BULLET CAN MISS.
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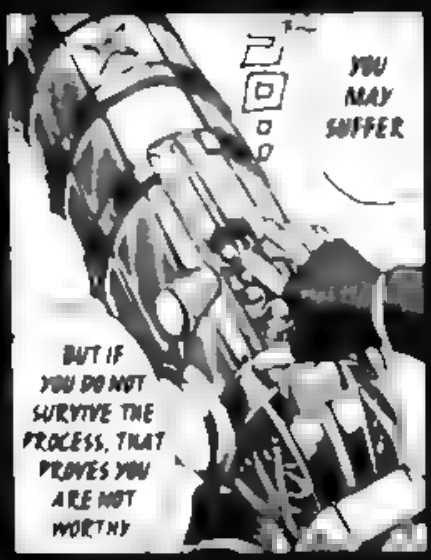
A BODY OF STEEL IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON
FIREARMS ARE NOTHING TO BE FEARED

THE PATH A HAGAKURE SHALL TAKE IS NOT TO RECKLESSLY THROW ONE'S SELF INTO ACTION, BUT TO ENDURE RECKLESS ACTION.

I WILL INITIATE YOU INTO THE ZERO FORM, IRON BALLS.
葉隠

SHALL WE BEGIN?


YOU MAY SUFFER
BUT IF YOU DO NOT SURVIVE THE PROCESS, THAT PROVES YOU ARE NOT WORTHY

YES, BEGIN!
MM-MMPH!
ボボボ
FIRST, KAKUGO!

AN AVERAGE MAN WOULD'VE DIED EIGHT TIMES FROM THE AGONIZING PAIN!
YOU ENDURED ADMIRABLY! WELL DONE, KAKUGO!
カハッ
I THANK YOU FATHER!
I REQUEST YOU TO SHOOT THREE TIMES MORE BALLS INTO ME THAN KAKUGO!
FATHER!
ボ
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HAHA-HAHA!
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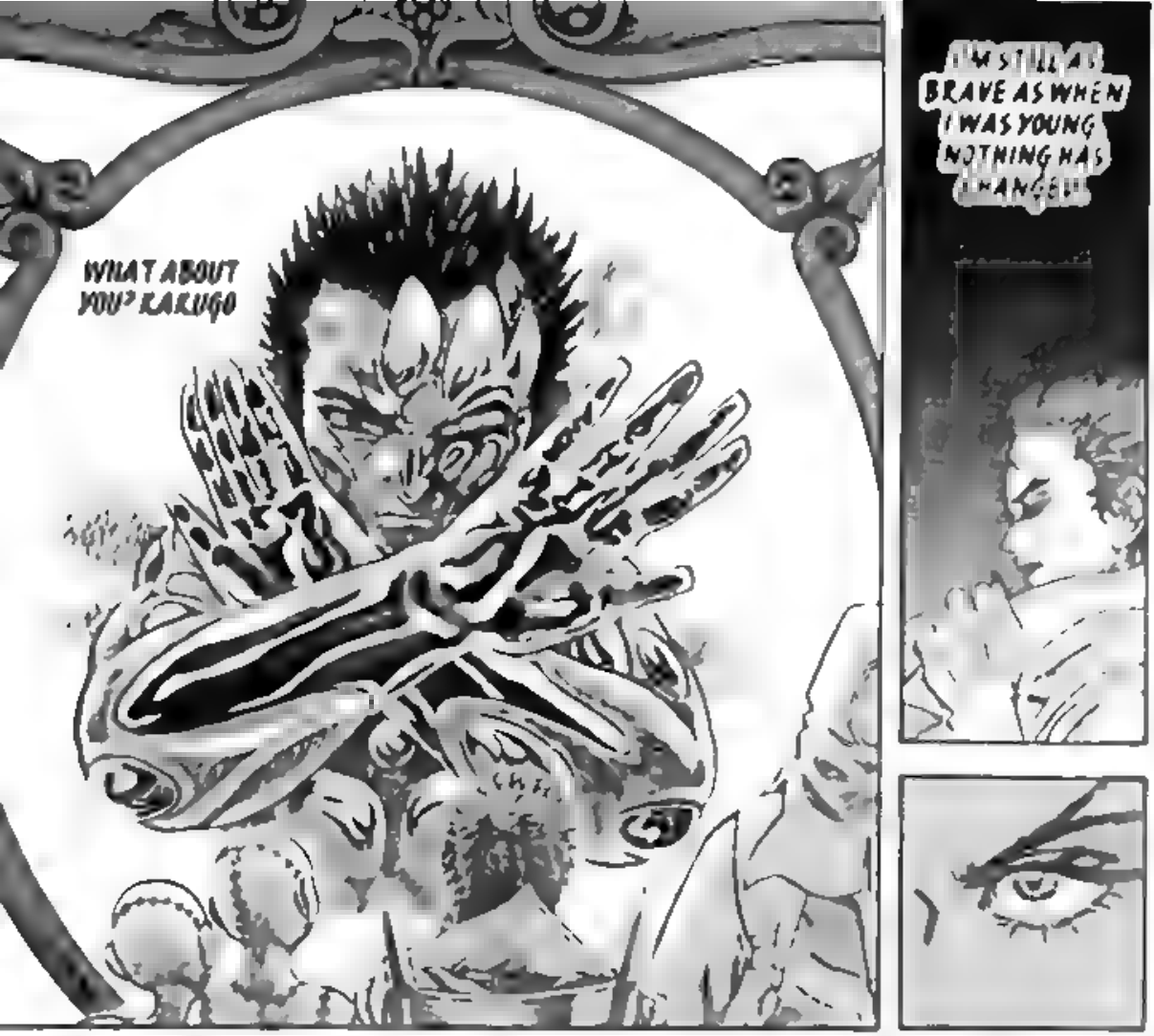
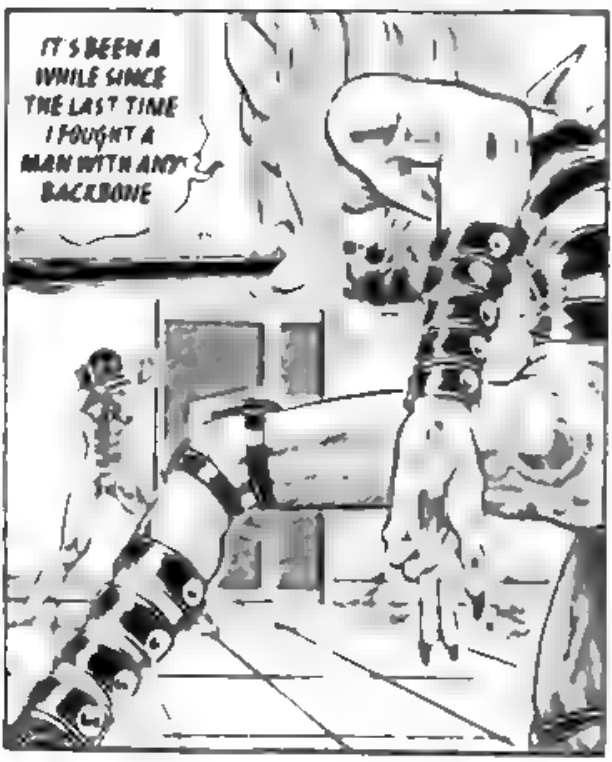
VERY WELL, HARARA!
I REQUEST YOU FIRE FROM CLOSER RANGE!
ボ
ボ
ボ

I'M OUT OF IRON BALLS
HARADA YOUR ENDURANCE SHALL BE LEGEND AMONG THE HAGAKURE
THAT IS A GREAT HONOR
THE PATH A HAGAKURE SHALL TAKE IS NOT ONLY TO FIGHT RECKLESSLY, BUT ALSO TO GAIN VICTORY NO MATTER WHAT.


WHAT ABOUT YOU? KARUGO

I'M STILL AS BRAVE AS WHEN I WAS YOUNG NOTHING HAS CHANGED!!

BEING 90 YEARS OF AGE. IT WON'T BE EASY FOR ME


IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE THE LAST TIME I FOUGHT A MAN WITH ANY BACKBONE

I SUPPOSE I HAVE TO ASK LITTLE BOY FOR SOME HELP
ゴゴゴゴ

!

EPISODE SEVEN, TRANSFORM

MY BOY, LET US JOIN FORCES AND DEFEAT HIM.
GGRRRHH!
THIS ONE MUST HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH YESTERDAY'S MONSTER.
ANOTHER MUTANT HORROR!

IT'S SO AMUSING TO WATCH KAKUGO AT A LOSS.
AH HAHA!
FOR KAKUGO, WHO TRIES TO BE LOGICAL IN ANY SITUATION, IT'S NOT EASY TO IMAGINE A CREATURE LIKE EIKICHI
ALL ARE FORBIDDEN TO A TRUE HAGAKURE BUT EIKICHI REEKS OF ALL OF THEM.
FREEDOM! LUST! JEALOUSY!

CLOSING IN!
IT'S MORE DANGEROUS TO KEEP MY DISTANCE
HE SHOOTS DEADLY BULLETS FROM HIS MOUTH...
GGH!
FOLLOWED BY...
GOLDEN BALL FLASH!
MY EYES!

BULLETS OF FROZEN MAN JUICE!

ZERO FORM CAN READ THE AIR CURRENTS.

EVEN WITHOUT MY SIGHT—

HERE IS THE FATHER AND SON COMBINATION!

SWIFT LITTLE PUNK!

DO SOMETHING! MR. ZENIGATA!
THE CAMERAS MUST BE BROKEN THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
PRINCIPALS OFFICE
MR. ZENIGATA GIVE ME A WHISKEY ON THE ROCKS
AND HER PLUMP LITTLE LEGS?
WILL I NEVER SEE HER SOFT, ROUND SHOULDERS AGAIN?
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

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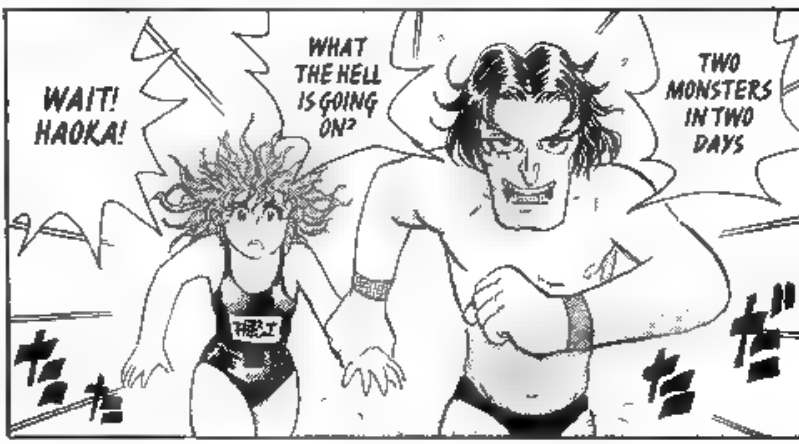
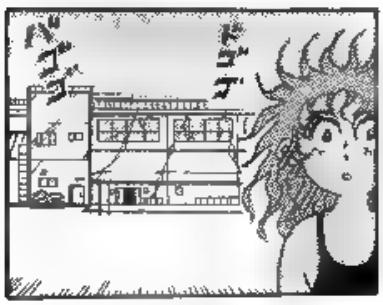
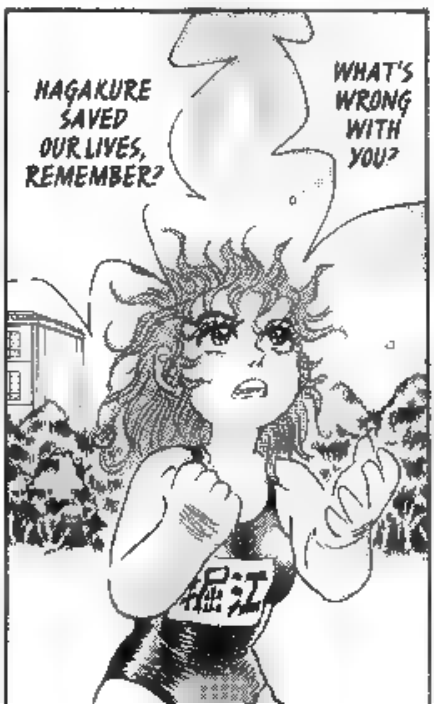
KAKUGO ISN'T COMING OUT OF THE BUILDING


WAIT! HAOKA!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
TWO MONSTERS IN TWO DAYS
ドン
ドン
ドン

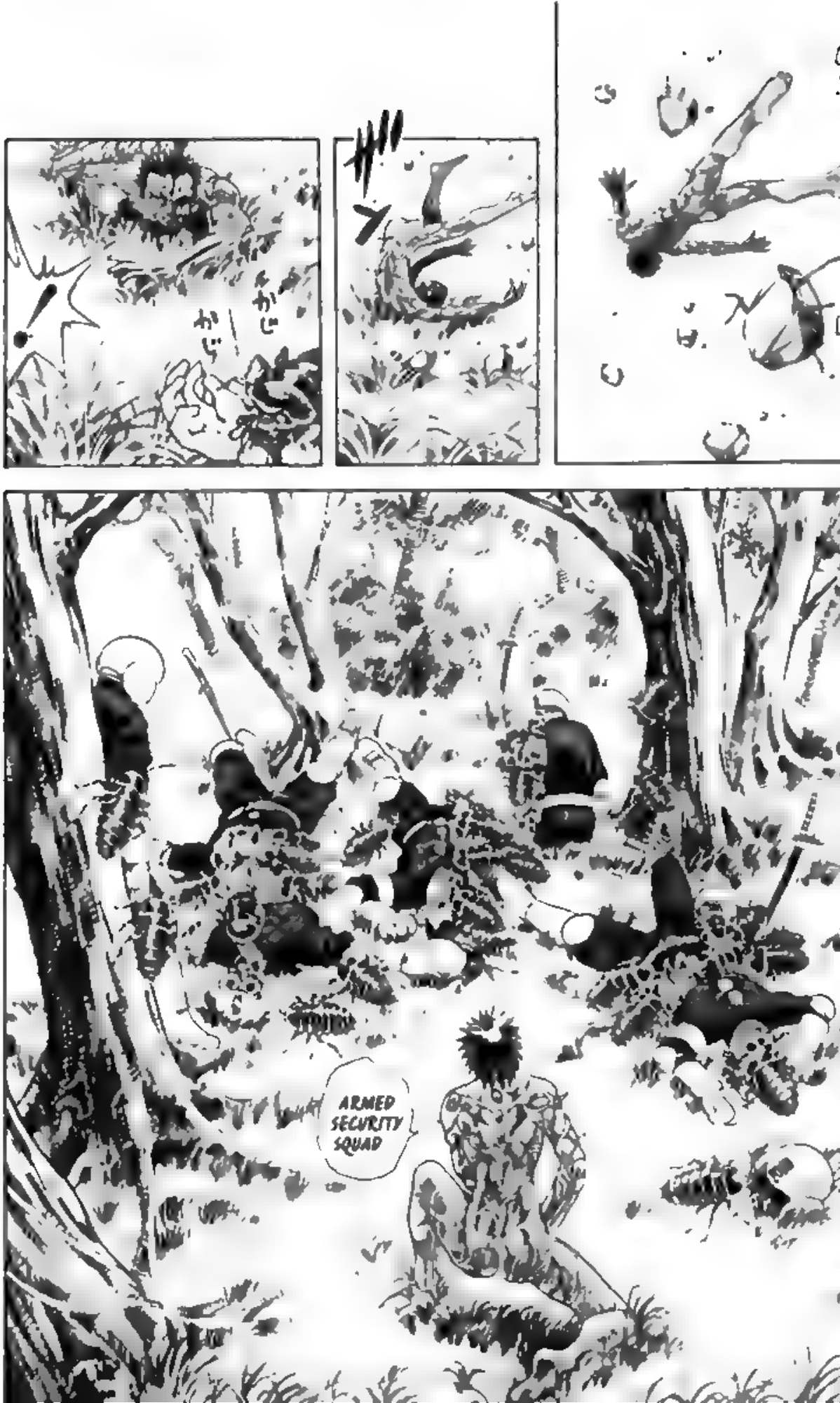

バゴォン
ドゴゴ

HE'S FIGHTING IN THERE...


HAGAKURE SAVED OUR LIVES, REMEMBER?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
枇江

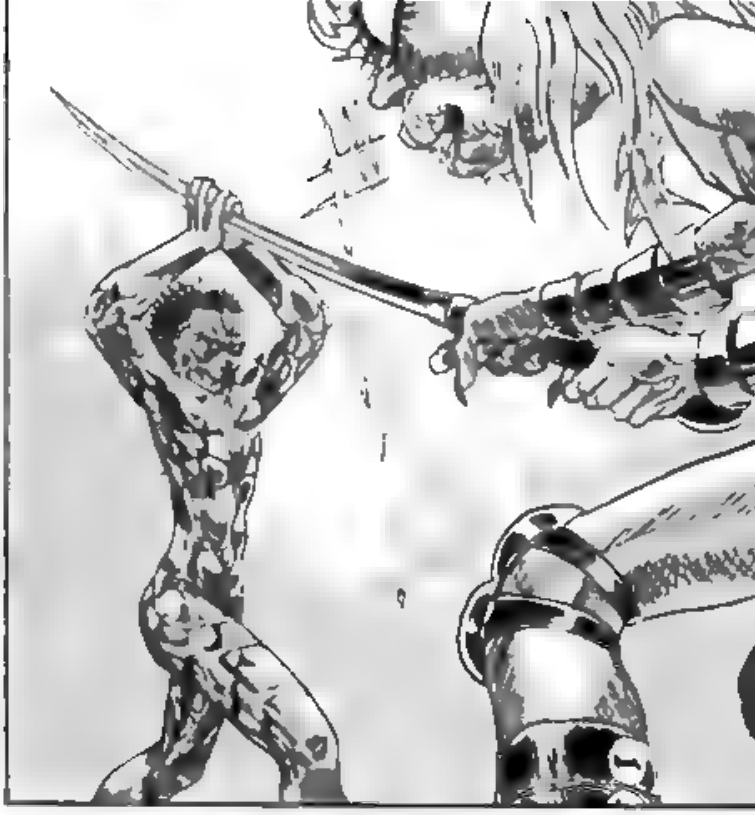
IT'S TIME TO WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF!
HE'S A BIG BOY.

ONLY 56 % OF HIS SKIN IS HARD AS STEEL
EVEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD OUT LONG AGAINST A RAIN OF BULLETS!
ドドド


ARMED SECURITY SQUAD

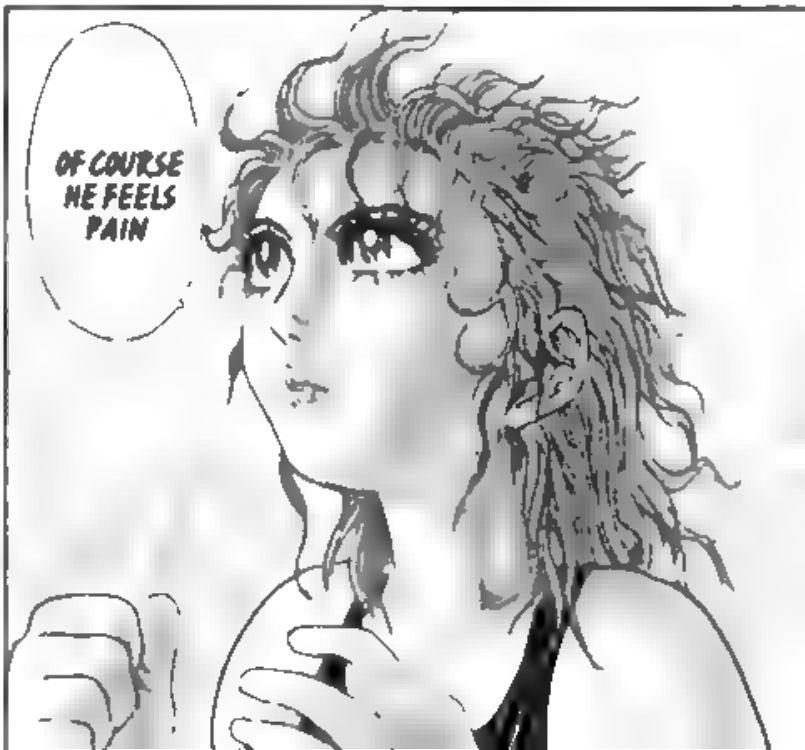
THAT'S THE SECRET TO A LONG LIFE.
KILLING THE YOUNG.
ガラ
DIE!
カシュ
HOLY SHIT! LOOK AT HAGAKURE'S BODY!
THERE HE IS! JUST LIKE I THOUGHT

HE ISN'T HUMAN!
HIS FLESH IS GONE AND HE'S SOME KIND OF MACHINE INSIDE



HE DOESN'T FEEL PAIN BECAUSE HE'S A ROBOT! NO WONDER HE'S SO COLD

HAGAKURE ISN'T A ROBOT
BECAUSE


OF COURSE HE FEELS PAIN

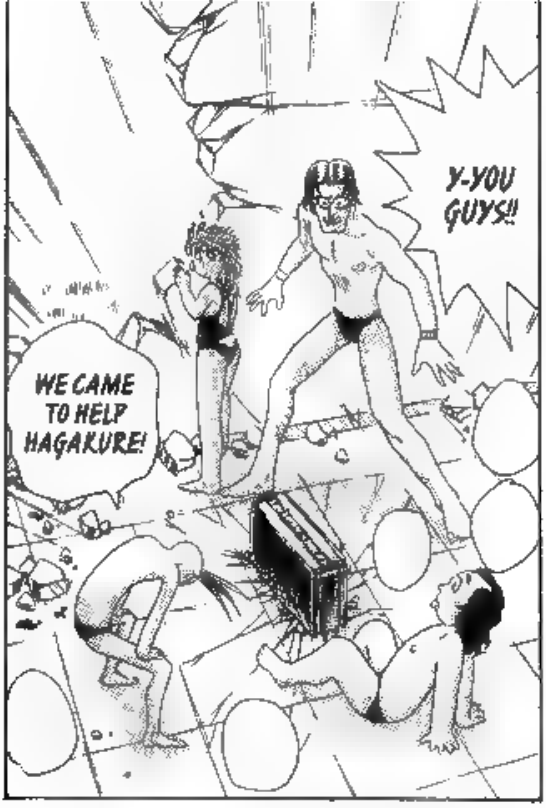
HIS BLOOD RUNS RED LIKE YOURS OR MINE.

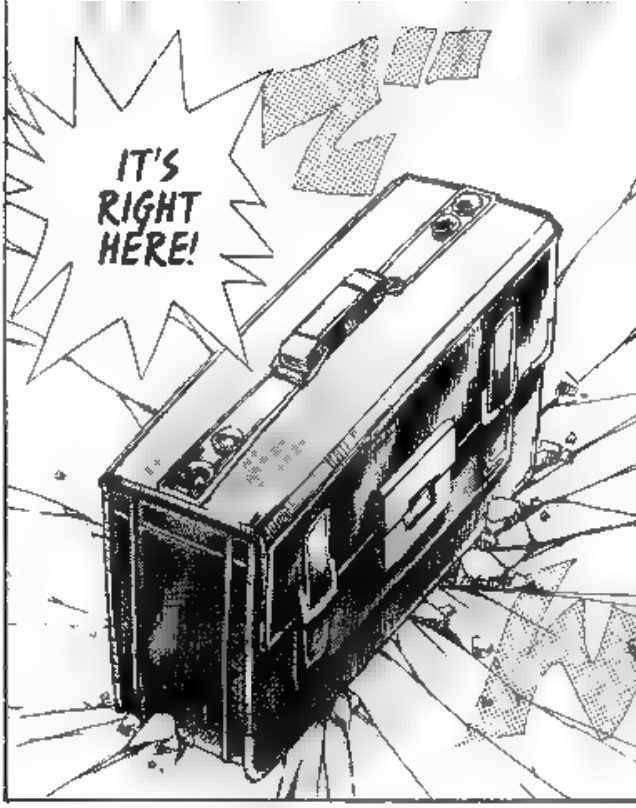
BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS

KILL

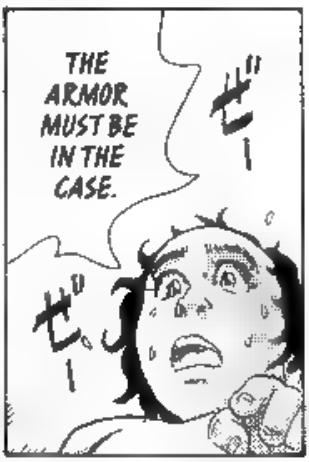
THE ARMOR
IF HE HAD HIS ARMOR

WE GOTTA DO SOME'THING OR HE'LL BE DEAD!
OH NO!


Y-YOU GUYS!!
WE CAME TO HELP HAGAKURE!


IT'S RIGHT HERE!

IDIOT! HOW ARE WE GONNA GIVE THIS TO HIM?


THE ARMOR MUST BE IN THE CASE.
ぜー
ぜー

IT TOOK TWO OF US CARRY IT.
はー

HAGA-KURE!
OH MAN! HE'S ALL BLOODY!
HE'S BLEEDING A LOT

HAGAKURE!

AGGH!
ざっぷ

死ぬな
ばかんれー
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
HAOKA!
EYYAH
F-FOOL!
!
HERE'S YOUR BRIEFCASE!
WHAT A NOISY FELLOW!
ぴゅー
EYYAH
だだだ
どん
LEAVE! NOW!
PUT IT ON THE GROUND!

!
WAH!
EEEE!
EHH
EHHH
HAOKA!
HAOKA
ど ぉ ん
URGGH!

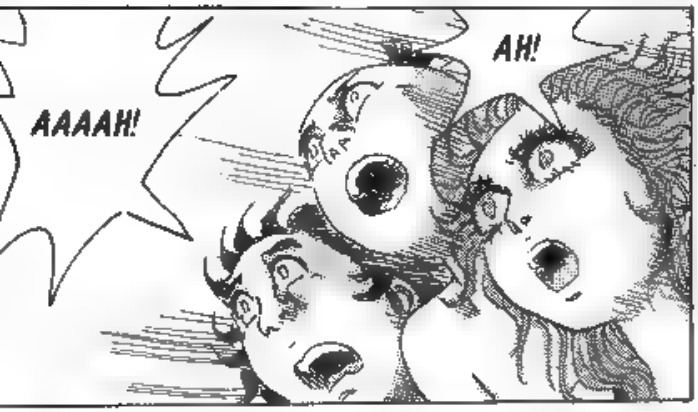
IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG TIME BEFORE I DIE
YOU. .
WHAT A FEARFUL LOOK
HE IS IN GREAT PAIN.
SUCH A WEARLING CAN NEVER MASTER ZERO FORM
HEH HEH HEH!
INSIDE YOUR BROTHER BURNS THE FLAME OF ANGER AND HATRED
HE MAY ENDURE HIS OWN SUFFERING, BUT NOT THAT OF HIS FRIEND
THAT'S WHAT KIND OF A MAN KARUGO IS

YOU MUST RESENT THE FEAR OF YOUR ENEMY.
YOU MUST NOT RESENT YOUR ENEMY.

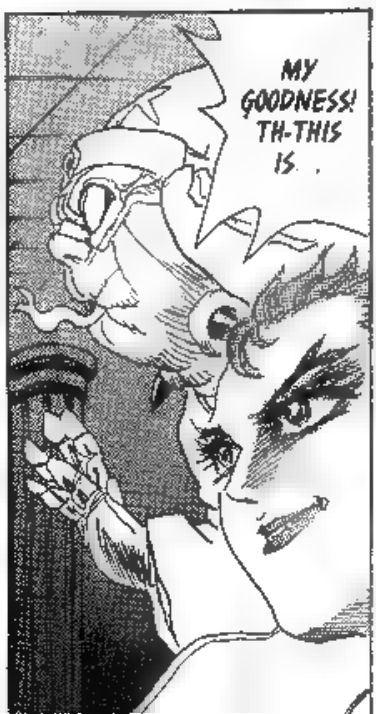
ENGAGE!

EHH!?

ドーン


AAAAH!
AH!

WHAT THE !


MY GOODNESS! TH-THIS IS .

URGH
. EH

KAKUGO COMPLETE!
覚悟完了

第八話 鬼我一体

EPISODE EIGHT: MERGING FIEND AND SELF

THAT IS THE ARMOR THAT WHOEVER KILLED KAMUKO WAS WEARING
THAT'S FORTIFIED ARMOR SHELL ZERO
IT'S A TACTICAL WEAPON CREATED BY MY GREAT GRANDFATHER
FORTIFIED ARMOR SHELL... HOW POWERFUL IS IT?

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S A NEWBORN BABY, A TENDER OLD MAN, OR A RELIGIOUS FANATIC—
—THE INVISIBLE VAPOR FROM ITS FINGER CAN—
—KILL INSTANTLY WITHOUT EVEN MAKING A SOUND
IT IS NOT THE HAGAKURE WAY TO DEFEAT YOU IN SUCH AN IMPERSONAL MANNER
KARUGO WON'T USE IT
B-BUT IF HE USES THAT KIND OF CHEMICAL WEAPON EIICHI—
—WON'T LAST A SECOND

W-WHAT IS THAT OUTFIT?
RRRRG-GGGGH!
I MAY HAVE A SHORT LIFE LEFT, BUT I'LL TEACH YOU SOME RESPECT.
THAT IS NO WAY TO TREAT A 90-YEAR-OLD MAN!
HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR YOUR ELDERS?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
EVEN THOUGH I SYMPATHIZE WITH YOUR CONDITION I CANNOT APPROVE YOUR ACTIONS
FFFFFF

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT MONSTER?
WHOA! HE'S SHOOT THE BULLETS OUT OF HIS MOUTH!

YOU INSOLENT BASTARD!

HAGAKURE WILL NOT LOSE!
HE'S OKAY!
EVEN WITH THE ARMOR, HIS BODY IS BADLY INJURED
HOW CAN HE SURVIVE?!
I'LL PUT PRESSURE ON HIS WOUND, AND YOU GO GET A STRETCHER!
WE'VE GOT TO SAVE HAOKA!!
OH, RIGHT! HAOKA!
IT'S NOT WORKING!
BUT WHY? MY BULLETS ARE AS POWERFUL AS A MAGNUM!

CRUSH HIM TO DEATH!
LISTEN, KICHI
THAT ARMOR IS LIKE A TANK AGAINST SUDDEN IMPACT
YOU MUST CHANGE YOUR STRATEGY
AS YOU WISH!

EVEN AN ARMORED VEHICLE WOULDN'T LAST TEN SECONDS OF THIS
WHAT PRESSURE!
I FEEL LIKE I'VE GONE TO HEAVEN!
THROUGH MY LITTLE FRIEND, I CAN FEEL YOUR PULSE! YOUR BREATHING! IT'S MAGNIFICENT!

ぶっ

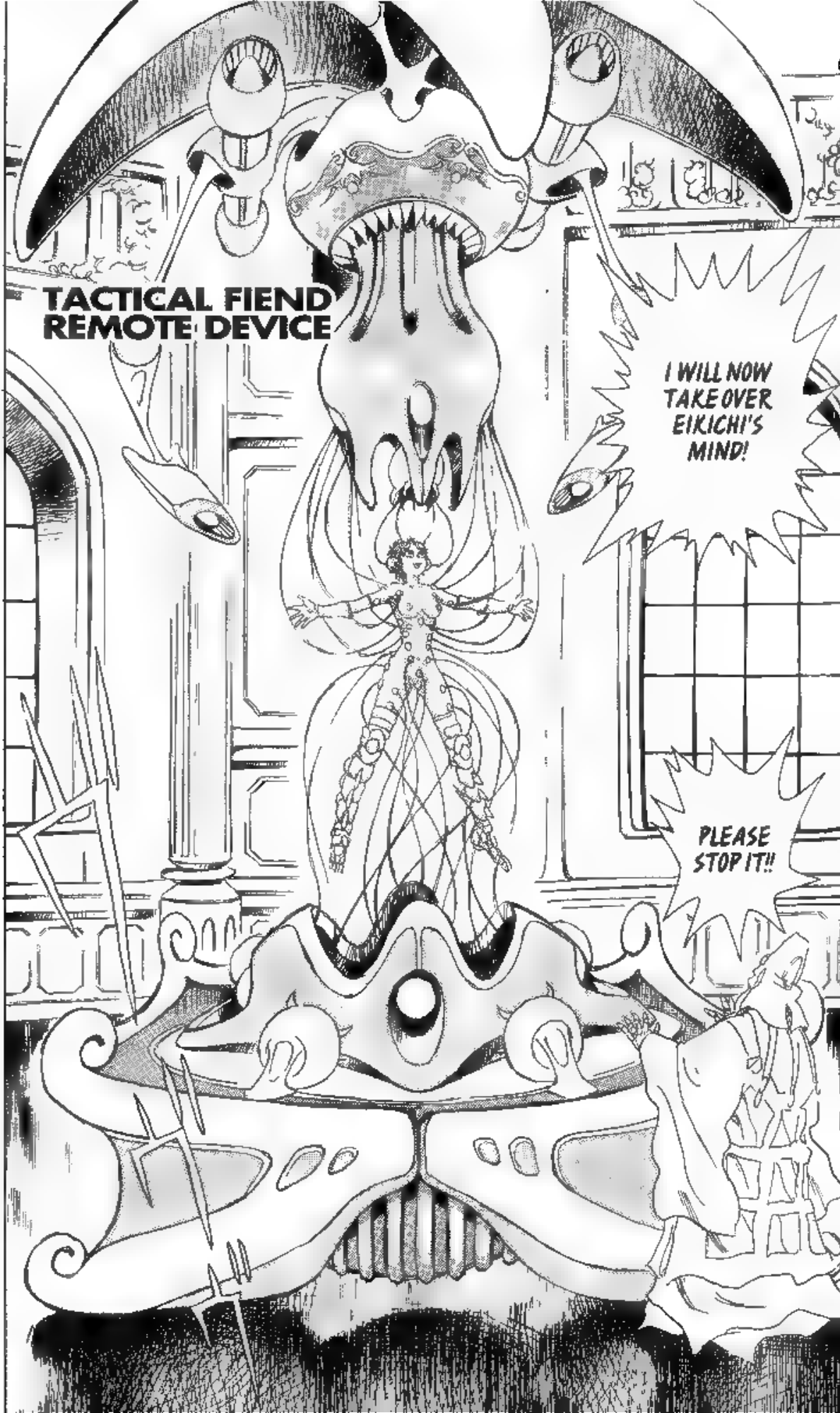
EEYYAH!
ばちゅーっ

ガガッ
WELCOME BACK TO EARTH!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
NATURALLY
I WILL FIGHT HIM MYSELF

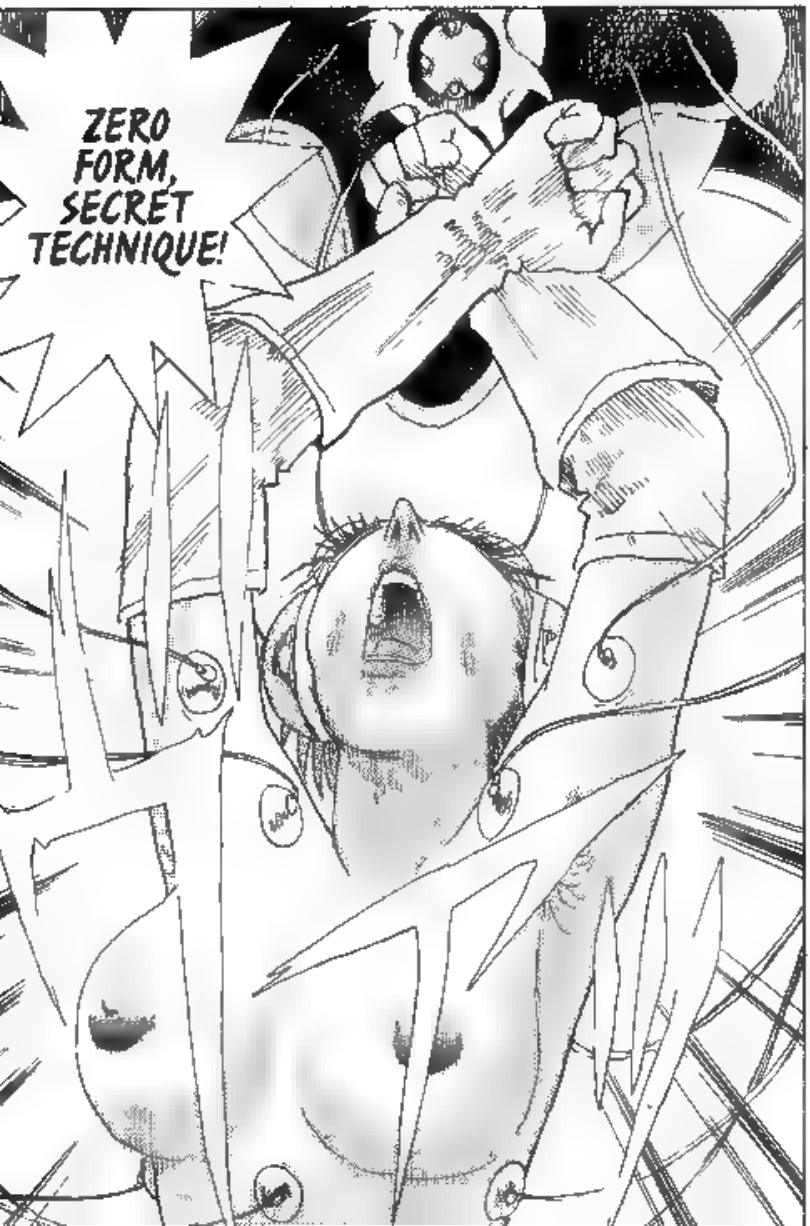
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, I SUGGEST YOU ANSWER MY QUESTIONS!!
EYYAH!
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, PLEASE DON'T KILL ME!
YOU HAVE 15 SECONDS!
SECOND! WHO DO YOU WORK FOR??
FIRST! WHY DID YOU ATTACK ME?

PLEASE THINK TWICE ABOUT THIS!
MASTER HARARA! THAT IS TOO DANGEROUS!
IMPOSSIBLE! MY MIND IS LIKE THE WIND AND YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE WIND.


TACTICAL FIEND
REMOTE DEVICE
I WILL NOW TAKE OVER EIKICHI'S MIND!
PLEASE STOP IT!!

WHAT'S THE POINT IF THERE'S NO RISK?
I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT .!

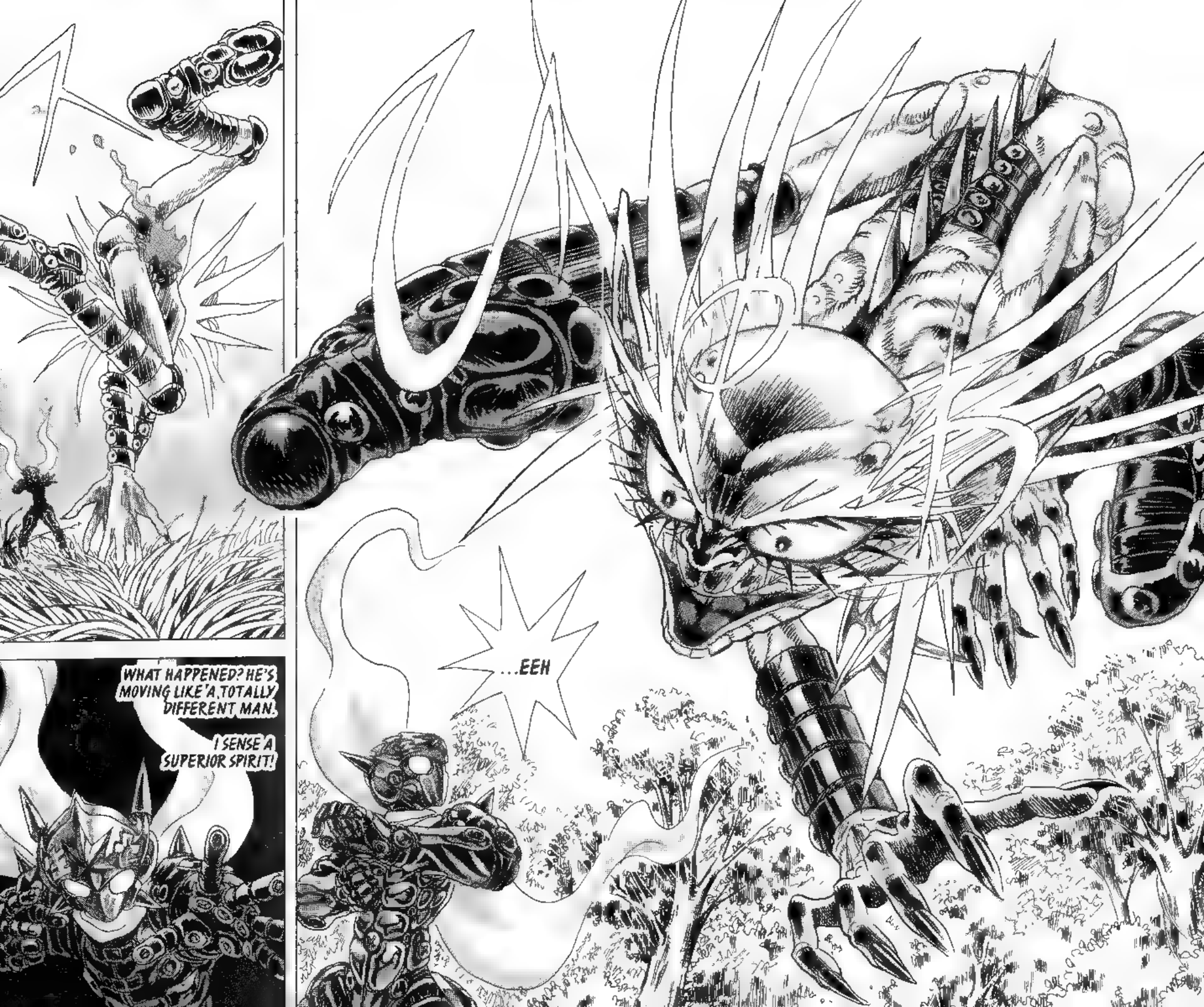
IF HE DIED, THE SHOCK COULD KILL YOU AS WELL!
BECOMING ONE WITH EIKICHI, MEANS THAT YOU WILL SUFFER THE SAME PAIN HE DOES!


ZERO FORM, SECRET TECHNIQUE!

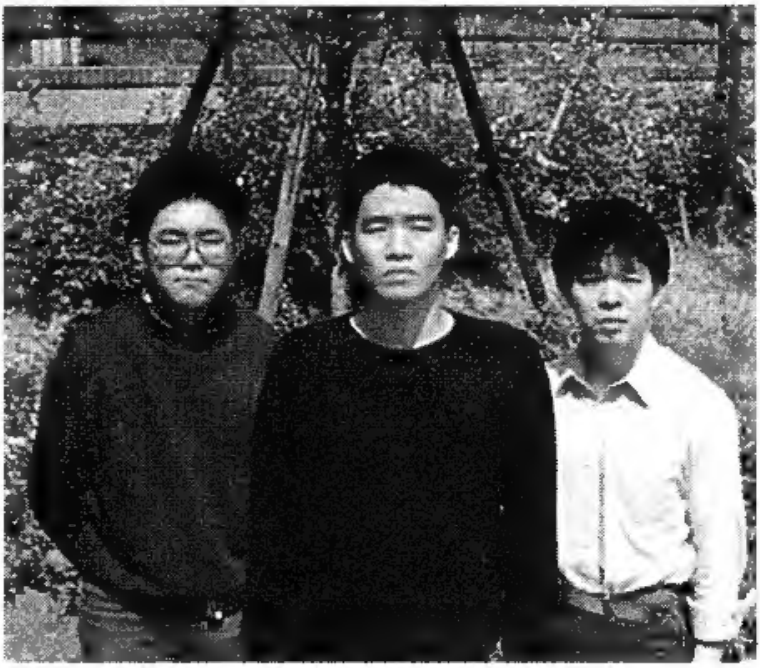
THREE.
TWO
ONE ..

MERGING
FIEND AND SELF!!
一体
鬼我

ZERO!
!


WHAT HAPPENED? HE'S MOVING LIKE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT MAN.
I SENSE A SUPERIOR SPIRIT!
...EEH

GREETINGS FROM YOUR BROTHER, HARARA!
TO BE CONTINUED



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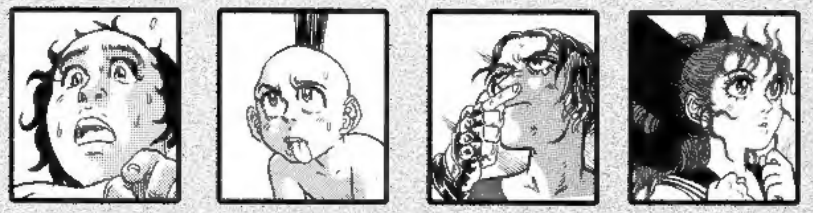
kids. Deep in his heart is the humanity to envelope all. Kakugo Hagakure fights for those who have courageous hearts. The power to grope for a star in darkness, and the absolute confidence to find it... That's the courageous heart. And that is also the subject matter of this book. In the next book, or the book after that, it will never change.

1995,
Takayuki Yamaguchi

COURAGEOUS HEART

Courageous Heart, I am like the grass that grows among the concrete longing for the light. The students of the Gyakujuji high school are like the grass. They are strong children who survived the apocalypse. Many of them lost their homes and parents in the earthquake. The sky of Neo Tokyo, where the students live, is dark, and the sea is polluted. Violence spreads everywhere in the city, and the students have to risk their lives just to go to school. They rarely get to satisfy their hungry stomachs. But they find happiness even in such a world. They smile, believing that tomorrow will be a better day. Kakugo Hagakure was born to protect these



IT'S NOT EASY TO BELIEVE
THAT TOMORROW WILL REALLY COME.
BUT WE ARE FILLED WITH HOPE, SO WE TURN TO
THE SONG OF COURAGE FOR STRENGTH.
BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IN HUMANITY,
WE TURN TO THE SONG OF COURAGE AND SMILE.
THE SONG OF COURAGE,
WRITTEN AND COMPOSED
BY UNKNOWN
EVEN IF THE EARTH DIES OUT,
JUST REMEMBER THE SONG OF COURAGE.
OPEN YOUR EYES AND LOOK FOR
THE SPARK OF LIFE. BITE THE BULLET
AND LOOK UP TO THE SKY.
1B

覚悟のススメ・シリーズ
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